Translation
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Editing
THE ANTAGONIST
Lettering
NOMAD SOUL

BIG SPIRITS COMICS SPECIAL

HIDEOUT

柿崎正澄

Presented by
Masasumi Kakizaki

BIG SPIRITS COMICS SPECIAL
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雑誌 45786-13　　小学館

My story takes place on an island paradise
in the southern seas...
It's a paradise except for ***one place***—
and I never should have ventured to that place.
I never should have gotten near it.
I never should have...entered it.
What will you really see in the nightmarish
creatures that lurk there...?!
The ones that fill your heart with darkness and
lead you to the pits of hell...

Artist Profile

MASASUMI KAKIZAKI

Born in Hokkaido in 1978
Blood type A
Masterpiece
[X-GENE](YOUNG SUNDAY COMICS 3volumes)
[感染列島](BIG COMICS All Volume)
[RAINBOW -二舎六房の七人-]
(YOUNG SUNDAY COMICS 22volumes)

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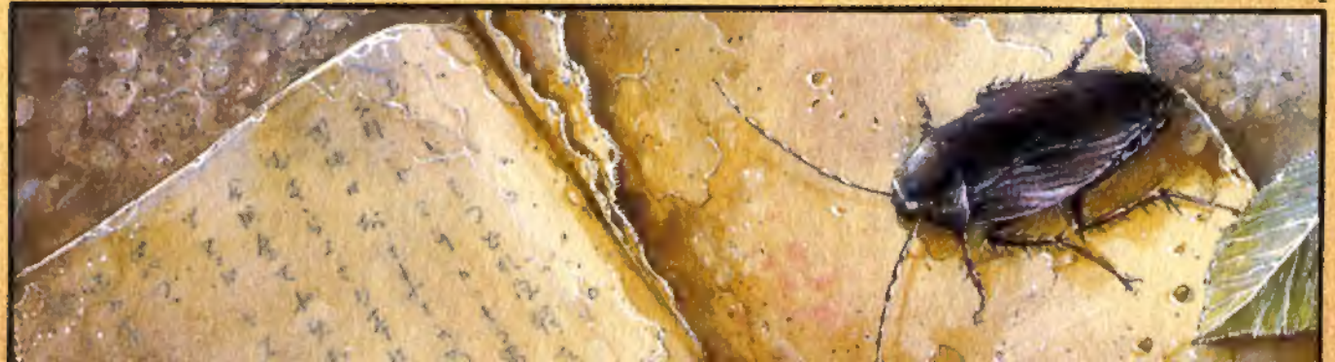
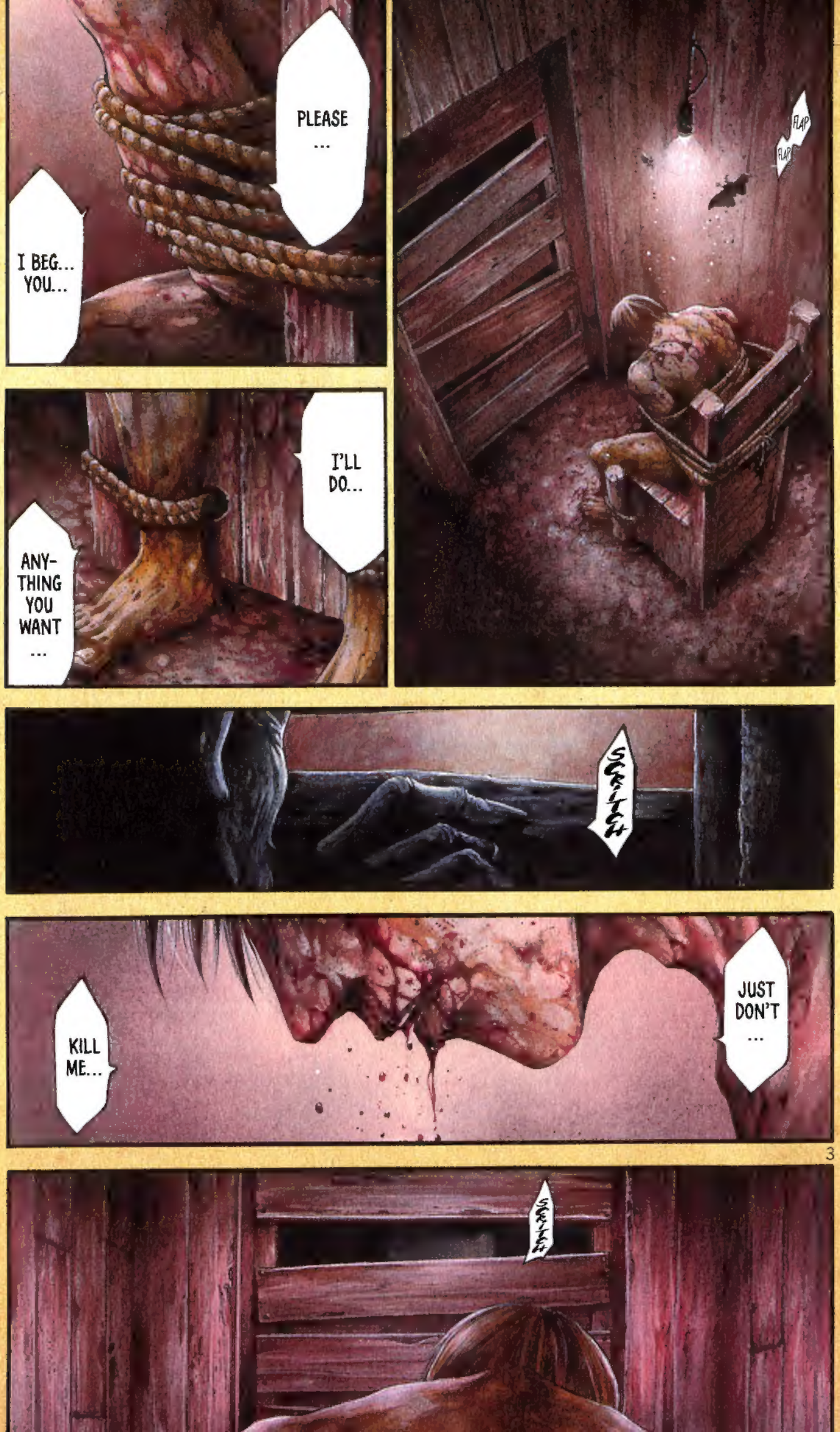
I WONDER HOW MUCH TIME HAS PASSED SINCE THEN...
TWO YEARS? OR MAYBE THREE?
IT'S ALREADY DIFFICULT TO EVEN REMEMBER...

MY NAME IS SEIICHI KIRISHIMA...
I'M A WRITER BY TRADE...
AND THIS BOOK WILL DOUBTLESS BE MY LAST PIECE OF WORK...

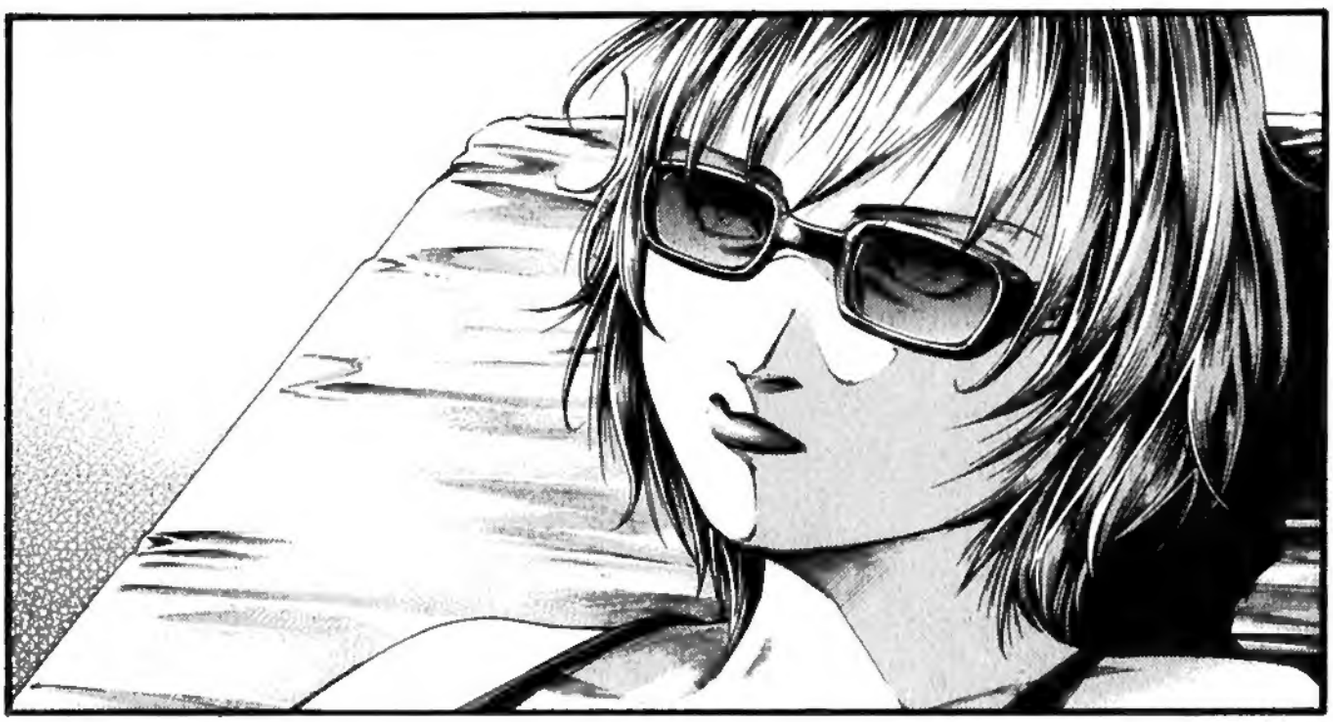
FOR NOW, ALL I WANT TO DO IS RECORD EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED...
BEFORE IT'S LOST FOREVER...
HOPING THAT SOMEDAY, SOMEONE WILL DISCOVER THIS MANUSCRIPT...



Chapter.1 Wicked eyes

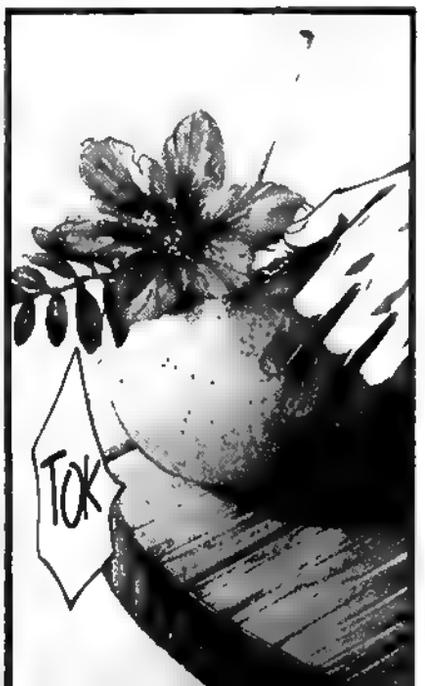

PLEASE ...
I BEG... YOU...
FLAP
FLAP
I'LL DO...
ANY-THING YOU WANT ...
SCRITCH
JUST DON'T ...
KILL ME...
SCRITCH

IT ALL STARTED ON THE DAY MY WIFE AND I ARRIVED ON THIS ISLAND ON VACATION... WE HAD HOPED THIS TRIP WOULD HELP HEAL THE EMOTIONAL WOUNDS FOR BOTH OF US...



WHEEEEE
YAAAAY

YAHOO
YAAAAY
WHOOPEE


TOK

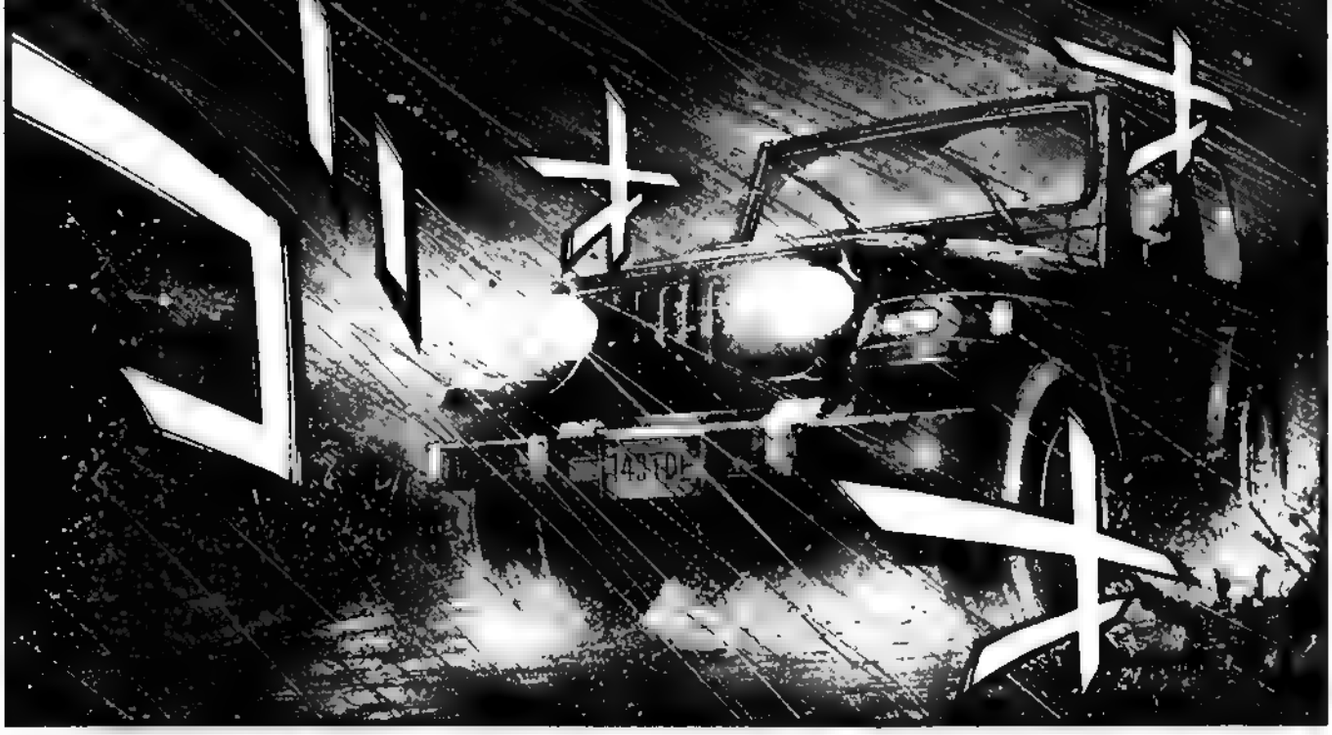
...I GUESS.
WELL, WHAT D'YOU THINK?
IT'S A NICE CHANGE OF SCENE, ISN'T IT?
EVER SINCE WHAT HAPPENED LAST YEAR--
--THINGS HAVE BEEN AWKWARD BETWEEN US.

SO...
I WAS HOPING THAT WE COULD USE THIS TRIP TO START OVER.

OH YEAH, MIKI. JUST NOW SOME LOCAL PERSON TOLD ME--
--ABOUT A BEAUTIFUL WATERFALL ON THIS ISLAND.

SERIOUSLY, SEIICHI?
DO YOU *ACTUALLY* BELIEVE THAT SUPERSTITIOUS CRAP?
THEY SAY IF A COUPLE SEES THIS WATERFALL, IT'LL BRING HAPPINESS TO THEM.
FWIP
YEAH...
I DO...

IF IT MEANS WE CAN LEAVE OUR OLD LIFE BEHIND AND MAKE A *FRESH START*--
--I'LL DO *ANYTHING.*



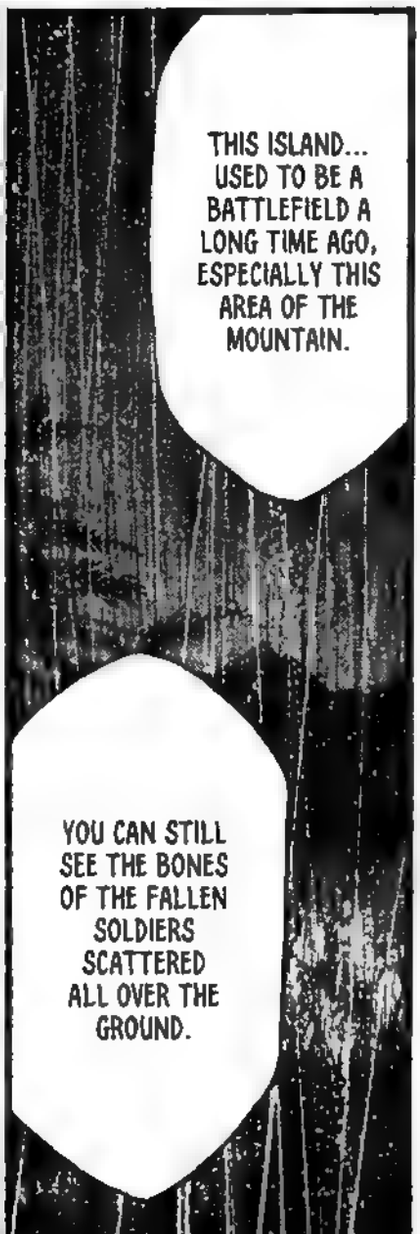
...DON'T TELL ME WE'RE LOST?!
...
WHERE THE HECK ARE WE?
WELL ...

IT'S *ALWAYS* LIKE THIS WITH YOU...
YOU'RE SO *USELESS!*
I THINK WE'RE ALMOST THERE.
ALMOST?! YOU'VE ALREADY BEEN DRIVING FOR MORE THAN *AN HOUR!* WHERE THE HELL'S THIS WATERFALL ANYWAY?!
SPOOF
SNIFF

clik
clik
clik
"WATERFALL OF HAPPINESS," *MY ASS!*
KLINK
KLINK
I NEVER SHOULD HAVE COME WITH YOU!
THERE'S NO RADIO RECEPTION AROUND HERE.
CRRRR
CRRRR
SHUT UP!

LISTEN, MIKI... A STAFF MEMBER AT THE HOTEL TOLD ME SOMETHING THIS MORNING...
APPARENTLY, THE WATERFALL ISN'T THE ONLY THING THIS ISLAND IS KNOWN FOR...

CHRRR
CHRRR
CHRRR


THIS ISLAND... USED TO BE A BATTLEFIELD A LONG TIME AGO, ESPECIALLY THIS AREA OF THE MOUNTAIN.
YOU CAN STILL SEE THE BONES OF THE FALLEN SOLDIERS SCATTERED ALL OVER THE GROUND.

TODAY PEOPLE ARE RAVING ABOUT THIS IDYLLIC SEASIDE RESORT--
--BUT THE REALITY ISN'T VERY PRETTY AFTER ALL.

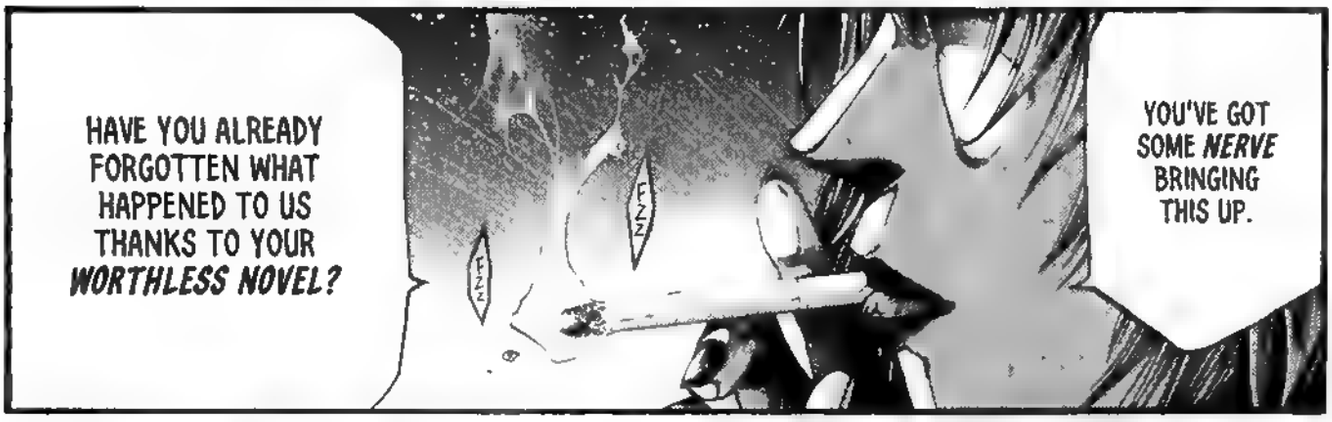
THIS ISLAND IS STAINED WITH THE BLOOD OF HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF DEAD SOLDIERS.

BUT I GET IT NOW...
JESUS, AND I WAS WONDERING WHY WE CAME ALL THE WAY TO THIS GODFORSAKEN PLACE SO YOU COULD TELL ME SOME CREEPY STORY...

THIS TRIP WAS JUST AN EXCUSE FOR YOU--
--TO DO RESEARCH FOR YOUR NEXT TRASHY NOVEL, WASN'T IT?

I WORKED SO HARD...
I DID EVERYTHING FOR YOU AND--

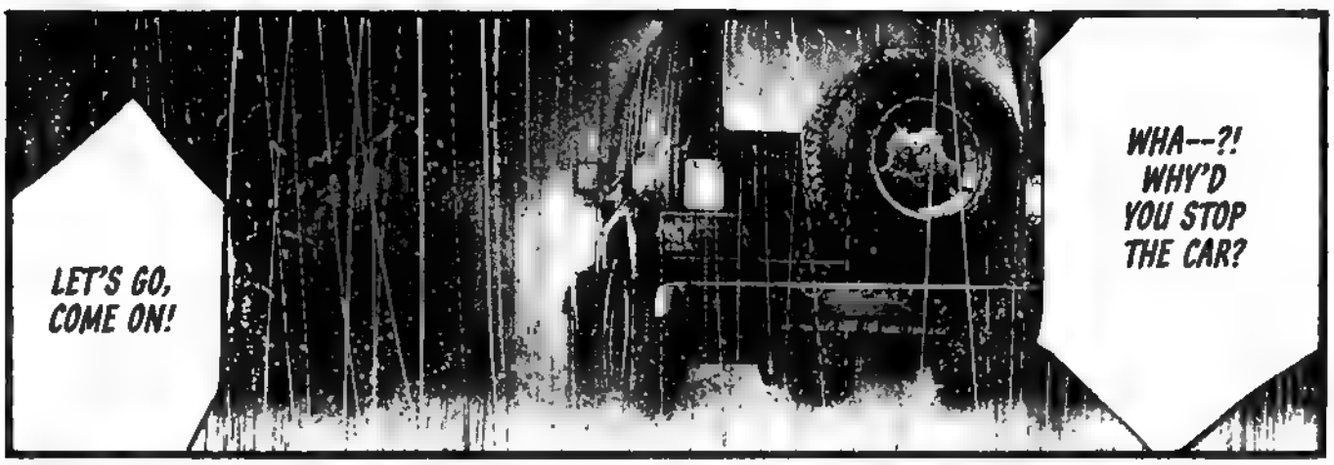
US *STARTING OVER?!* HOW COULD YOU *LIE* TO ME LIKE THAT?!
I-I...


HAVE YOU ALREADY FORGOTTEN WHAT HAPPENED TO US THANKS TO YOUR *WORTHLESS NOVEL?*
FZZ
FZZ
YOU'VE GOT SOME *NERVE* BRINGING THIS UP.

--*YOUR* FAULT!
IT'S ALL--

IT WAS IN THAT MOMENT THAT THE LAST VESTIGE OF MY HESITATION DISAPPEARED...

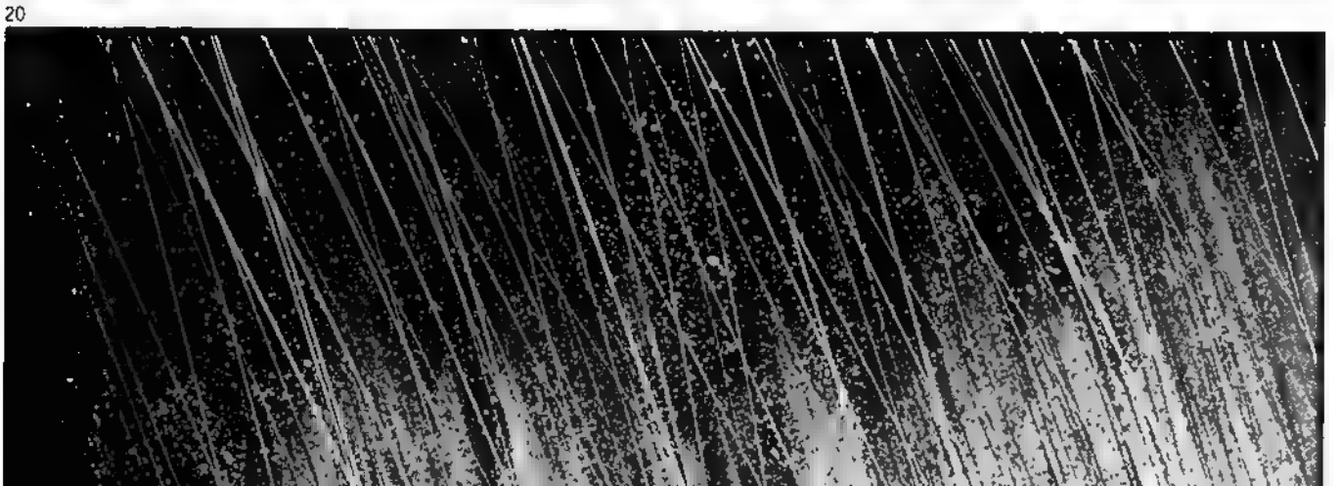
SCREEEEE
KCHUNK
KCHUNK


LET'S GO, COME ON!
WHA--?! WHY'D YOU STOP THE CAR?

IT LOOKS LIKE WE'RE OUTTA GAS...
E
F
MIKI...
SORRY...

I SAW LIGHT FROM A HOUSE ON THE WAY, ABOUT A KILOMETER BEHIND US.
BUT NO NEED TO WORRY...
I'M SORRY...
OUT OF GAS? HERE?! WHAT'RE WE SUPPOSED TO DO NOW?!

--IS WALK BACK THERE AND GET SOME HELP.
ALL WE HAVE TO DO--



I DON'T REMEMBER EXACTLY WHEN I FIRST CAME UP WITH THIS IDEA...

BUT I HAD PICTURED IT OVER AND OVER IN MY HEAD...

THE MOMENT WHEN I WOULD END THIS WOMAN'S LIFE...

ARGH!
CLONK
SWOOSH

THUD

ARE YOU FUCKING KIDDING ME?!
HOW *DARE* YOU PUT THE BLAME ON *ME*?!
SSST...
YOU ARE!
I'M NOT THE ONE RESPONSIBLE, MIKI.

--
KILLED JUN!
YOU --

Y-YOU'RE OUT OF YOUR GODDAMN MIND...
...

I TOLD YOU. I WANT TO--
--WIPE THE SLATE CLEAN ON THIS TRIP...
I'M *NOT* CRAZY! ON THE CONTRARY...
YOU HAVE NO IDEA *HOW LONG* I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS MOMENT.

IF YOU DISAPPEAR --
KRICH
--I CAN RESTART MY LIFE AT ANY TIME!

!!
KRAK

FUCK!
THUD

GRAB
PSYCHO!
GO TO HELL!

DASH

DO I REGRET TRYING TO KILL HER?
ABSOLUTELY NOT! SHE RUINED MY LIFE...

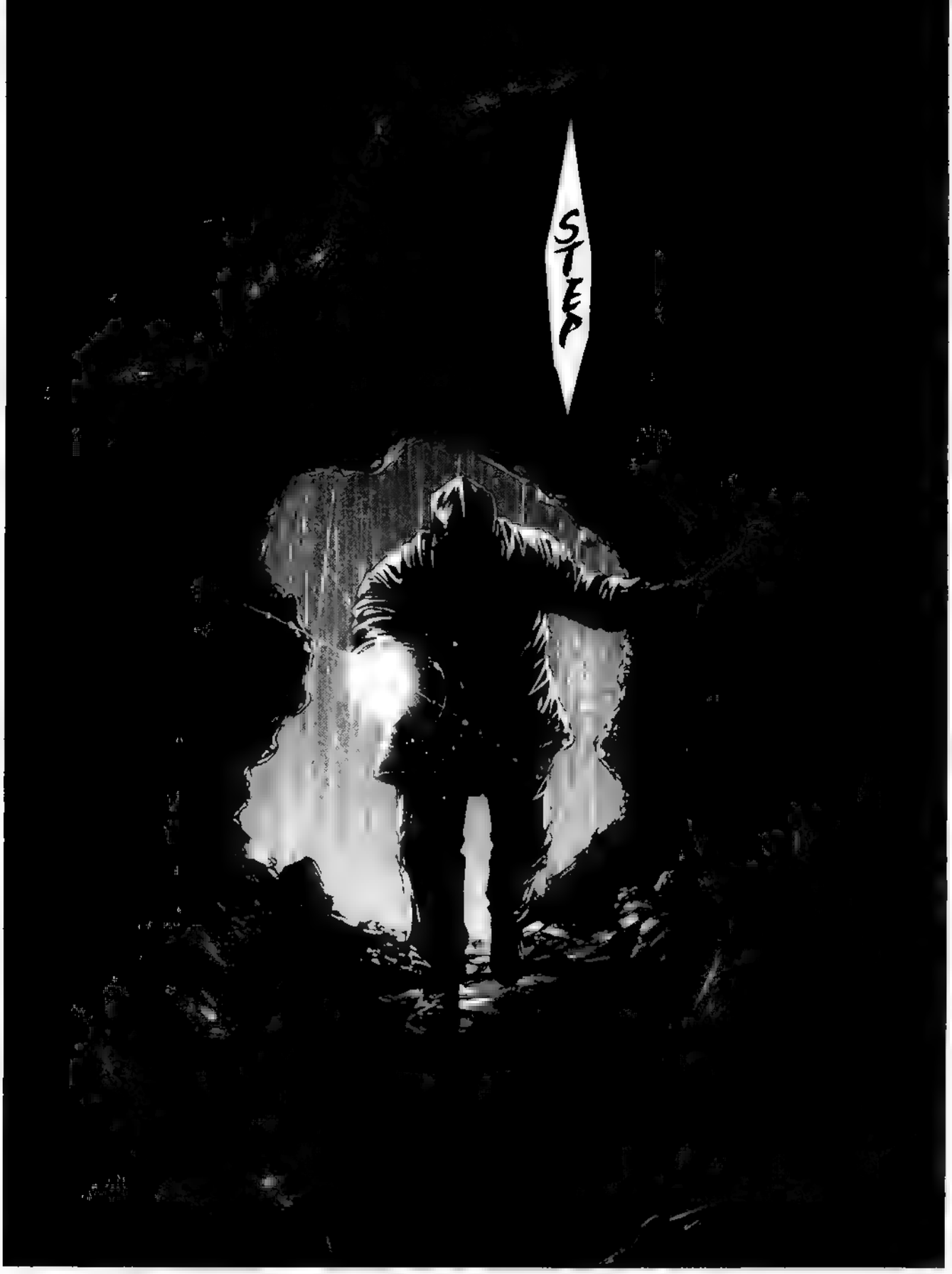
IF SHE STOOD BEFORE ME RIGHT NOW, I WOULD DO IT AGAIN IN A HEARTBEAT...

LOOKING BACK, MY ONE REGRET IS--

--THAT I KEPT GOING AFTER HER...

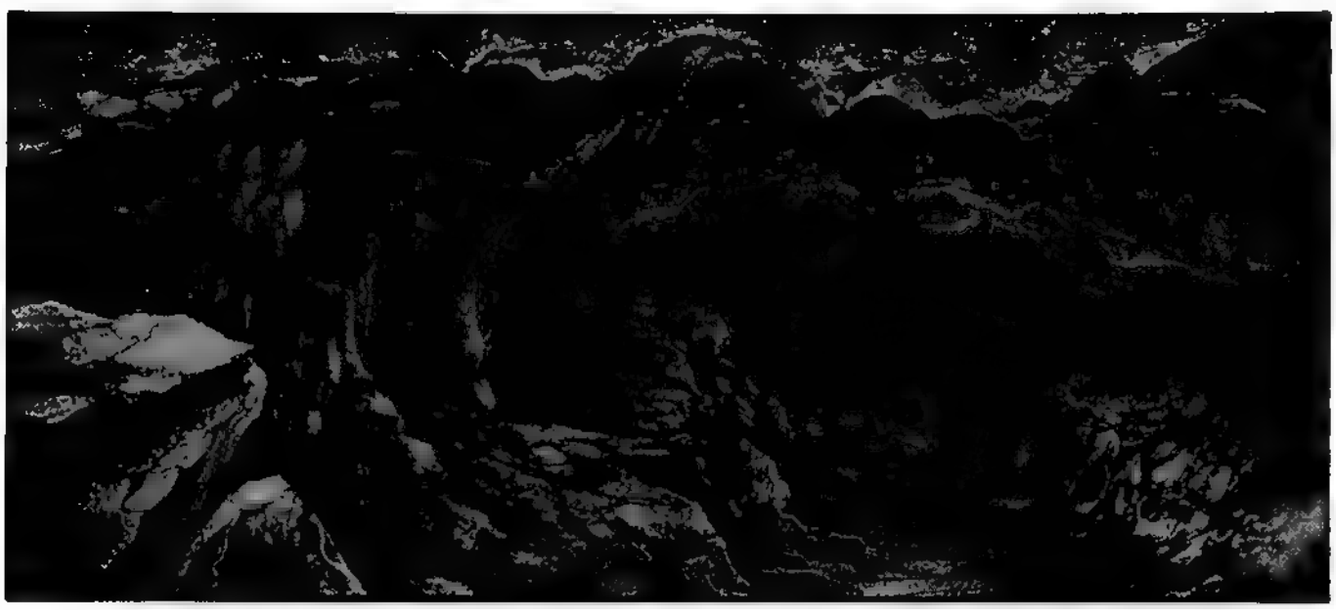
I SHOULD HAVE TURNED AROUND...

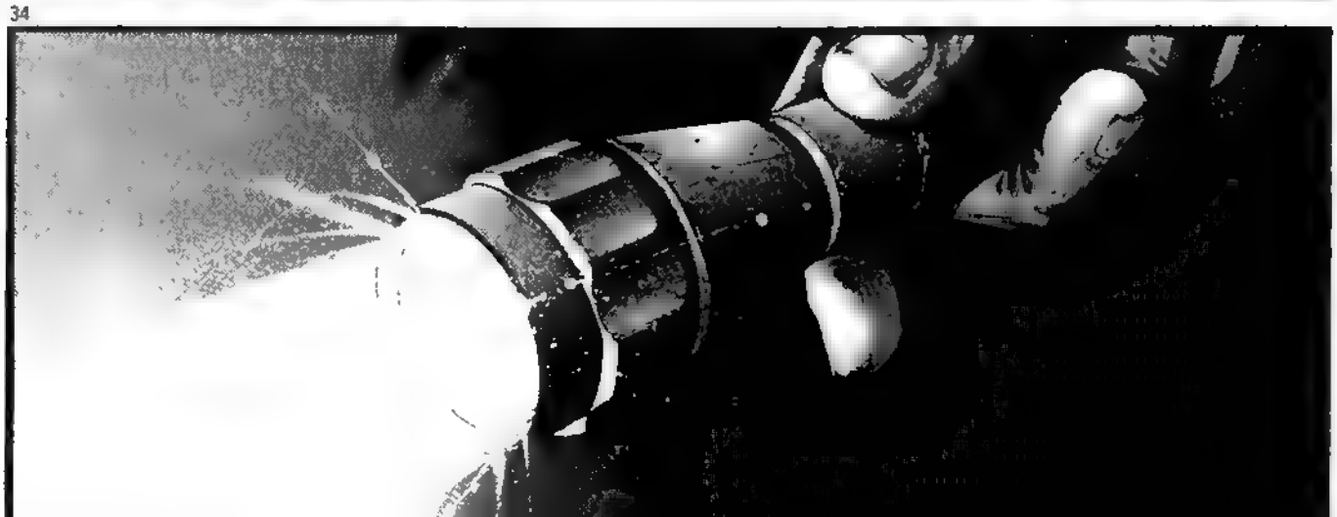
SHOULD HAVE WALKED AWAY...

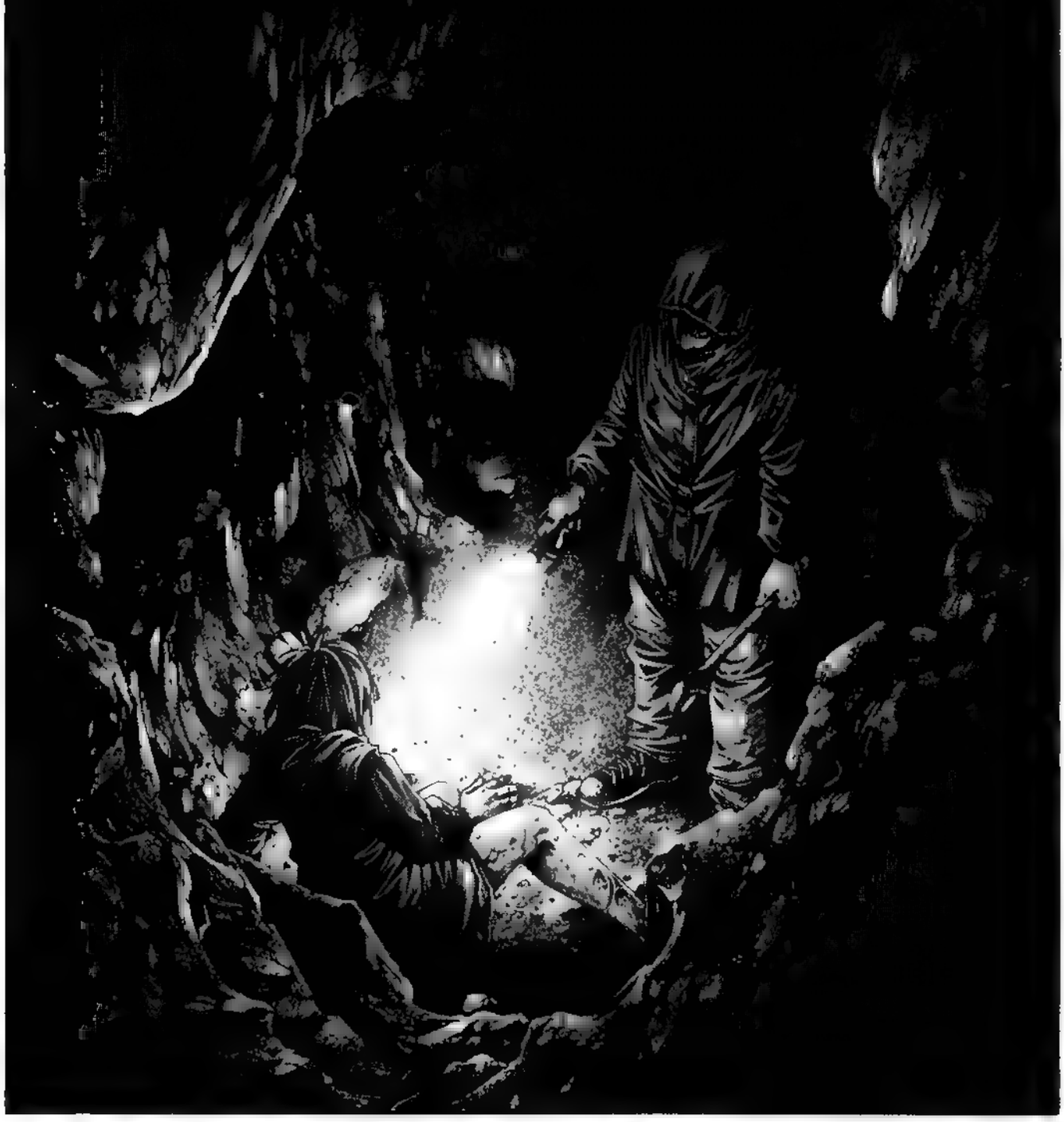


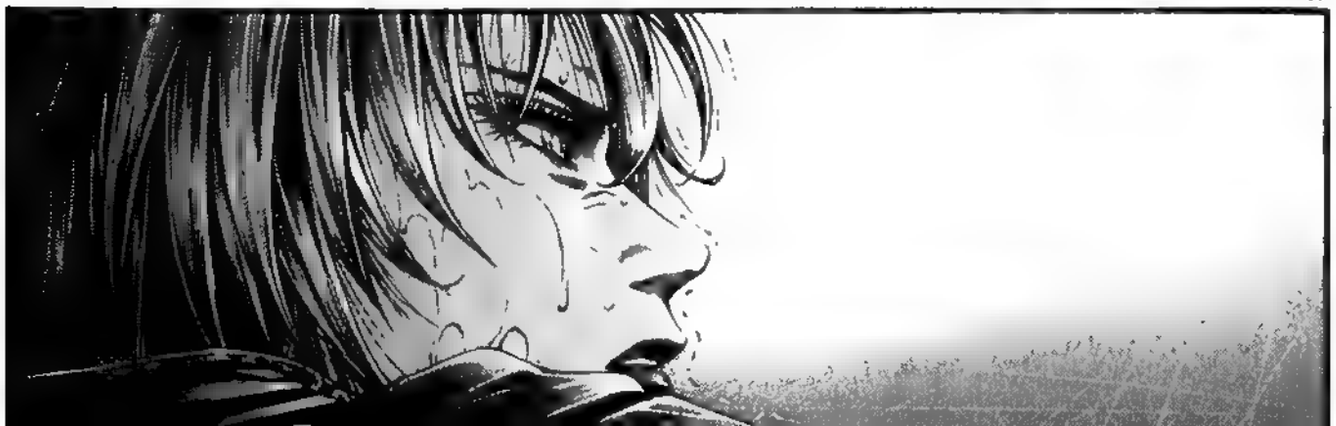
I NEVER SHOULD HAVE ENTERED THAT CAVE...

RUSTLE
PLOP









POOR THING.
I SEE. YOU'RE INJURED ...

T-THAT'S RIGHT. LET'S START OVER AGAIN. FORGET ABOUT EVERYTHING...
I'M SURE THIS TIME THINGS WILL--

J-JUST WAIT, SEIICHI... FINE, YOU'VE WON...
LET'S TALK THIS OUT LIKE CALM RATIONAL ADULTS, OKAY?

THUMP

YOU'RE RIGHT...
MIKI...
OOZE

--FINALLY START A NEW LIFE.
NOW I CAN--

SLASH

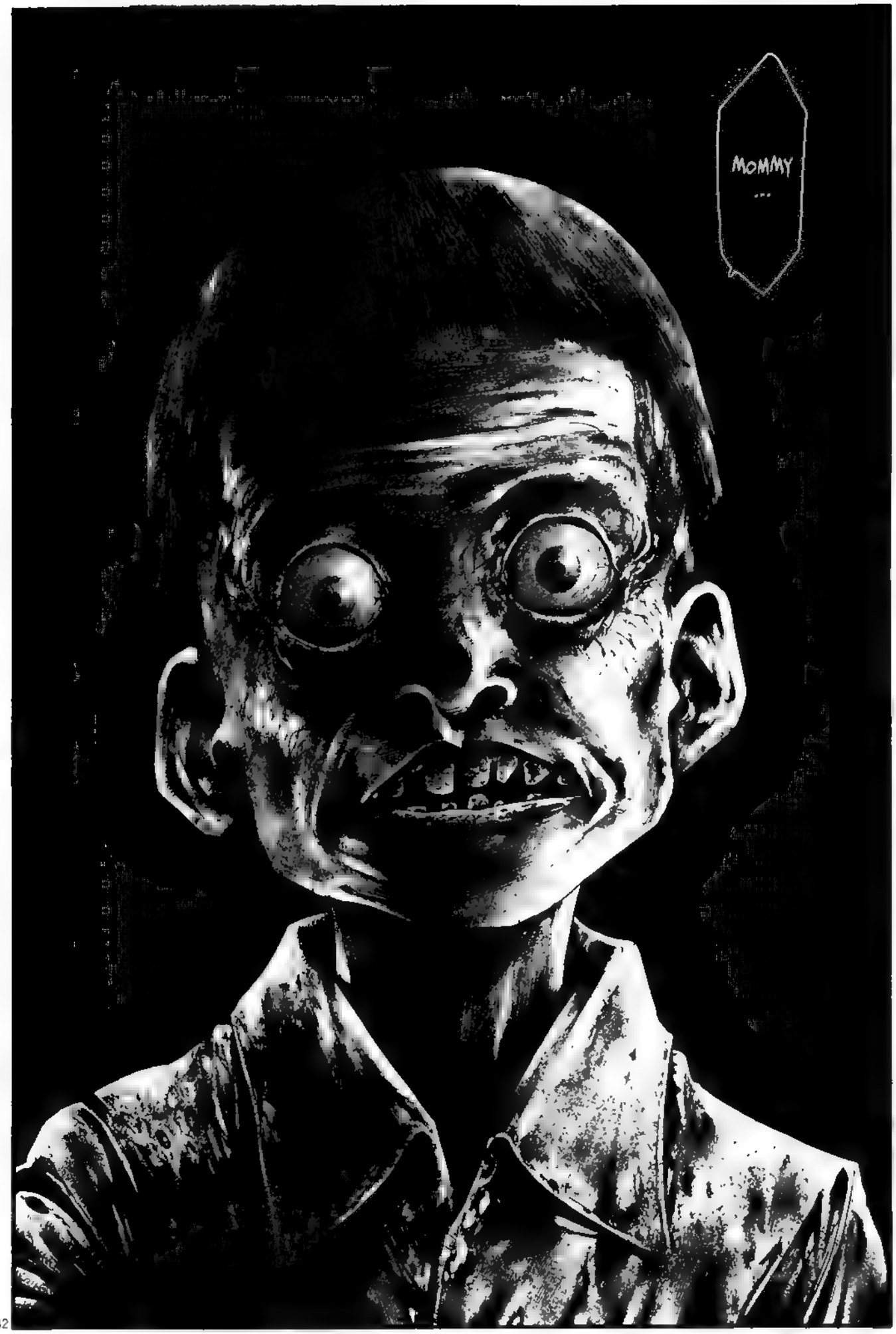
SKRISH

!

ニヤリ

ギロ

...MY...



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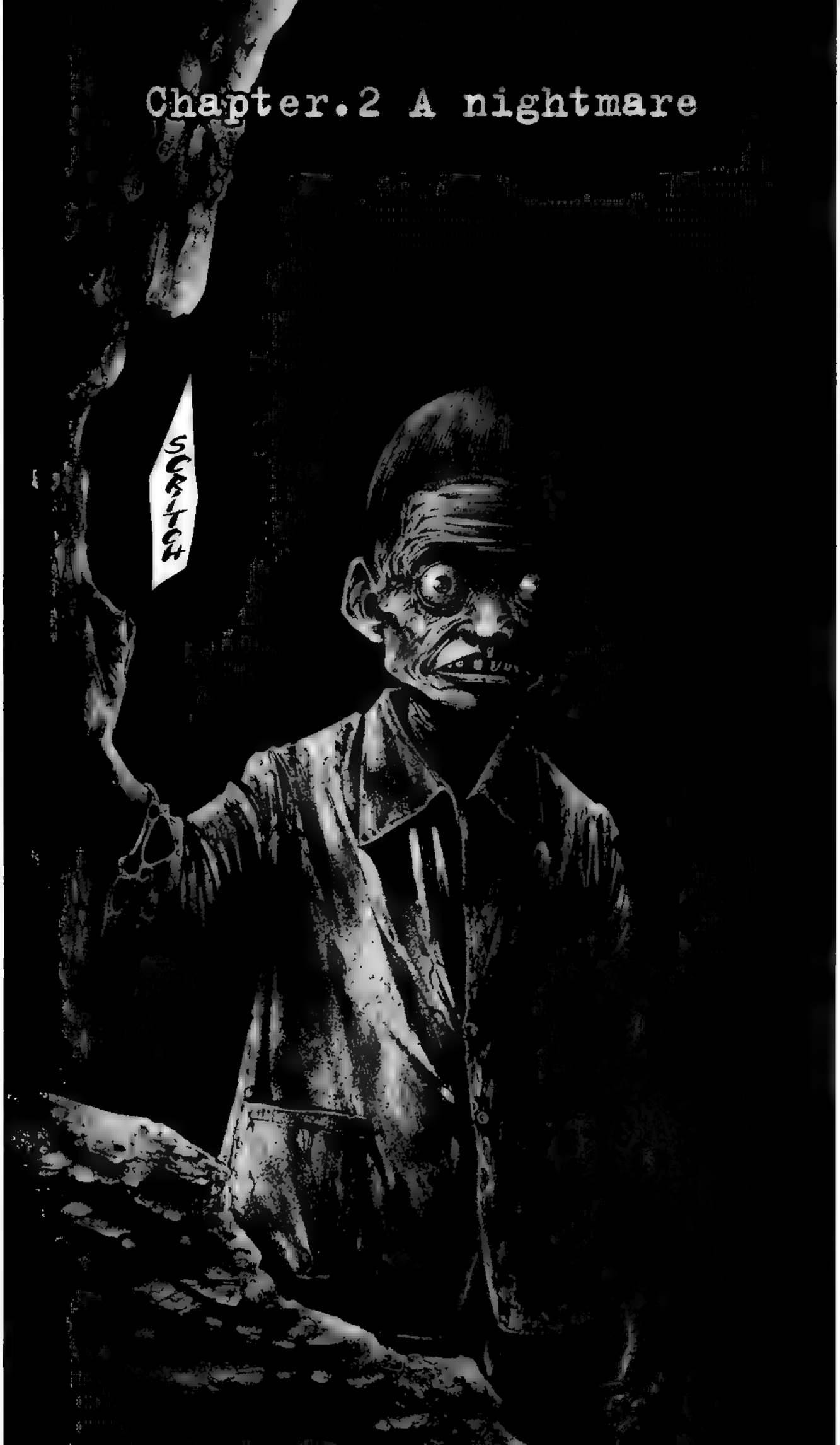
Chapter.2 A nightmare

Chapter.2 A nightmare



M-
MOMMY
...

SNAP

M-MOMMY
...?

YOU...
BULLY...

W-WHAT ARE YOU *TALKING* ABOUT?
SHE'S NOT YOUR--

HE'S GONE ...
H-

4

AND CERTAINLY --
--NOT A LITTLE KID.

CHK

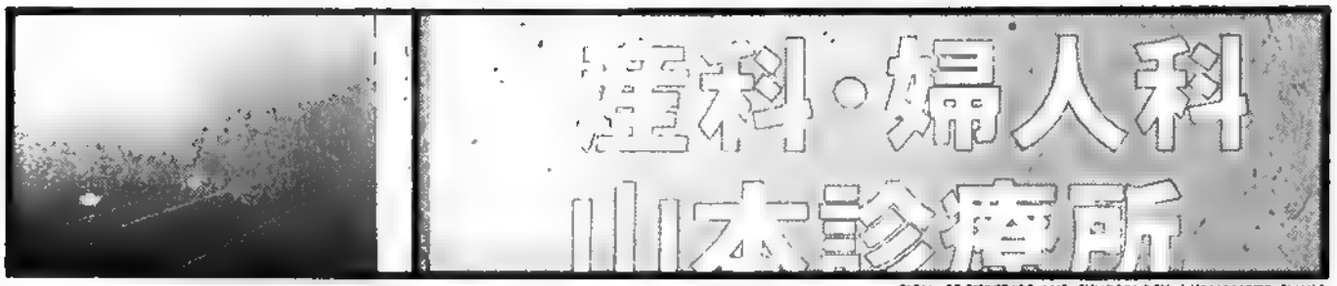
THERE SHOULDN'T BE ANYONE ELSE HERE...
SHEESH... I'M SO TIRED I'M HALLUCI-NATING...

EVER SINCE WE LOST OUR CHILD,
I HAD BEEN PLAGUED BY NIGHTMARES...

BUT IT WAS OVER NOW...
THE NIGHTMARES WOULD DISAPPEAR WITH HER...

OR SO I THOUGHT...

SIGN: YAMAMOTO CLINIC.



SIGN OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY / YAMAMOTO CLINIC.

6

ARE YOU THE FATHER?
Y-YES.
SIGN OPERATING.

CONGRATULA-
TIONS.

IT'S A BOY.

HUFF
HUFF

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

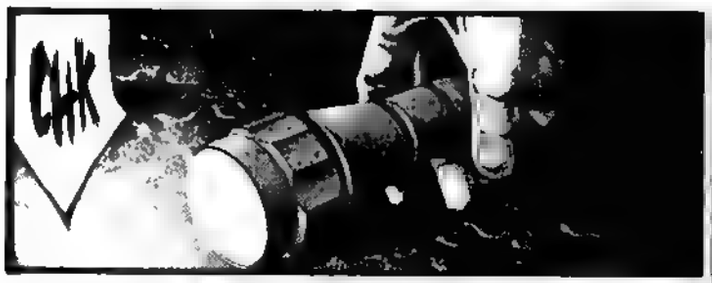
I SHOULD BE ABLE TO SEE THE EXIT BY NOW...
SHIT! THIS MAKES NO SENSE...

!
TRIP
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN BE LOST...
HUFF
HUFF
I CAME STRAIGHT DOWN THIS PATH...

CLUNK
CLUNK
FWUMP

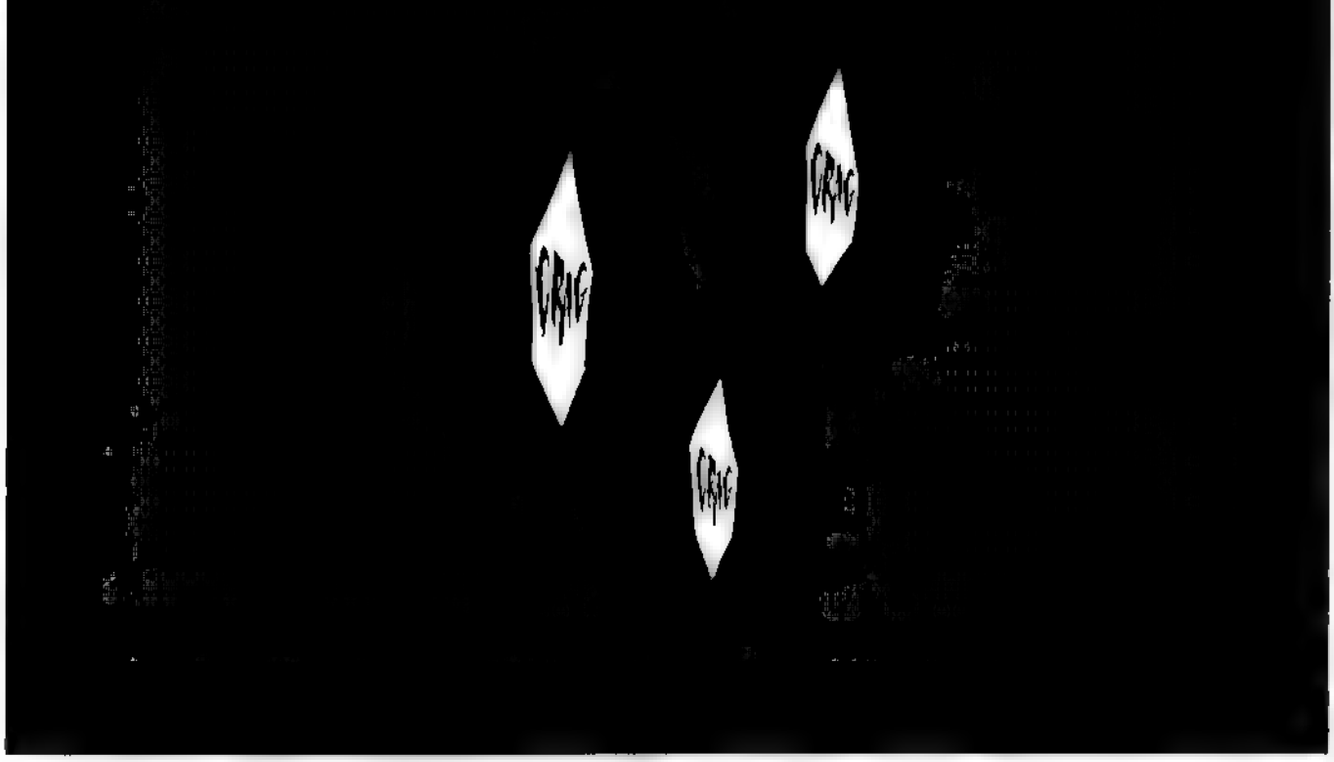
SON OF A BITCH...

AH! THE FLASH-LIGHT...
KRNCH


CHK

WHAT THE HELL...?
THIS SHOE... DOESN'T BELONG TO MIKI...

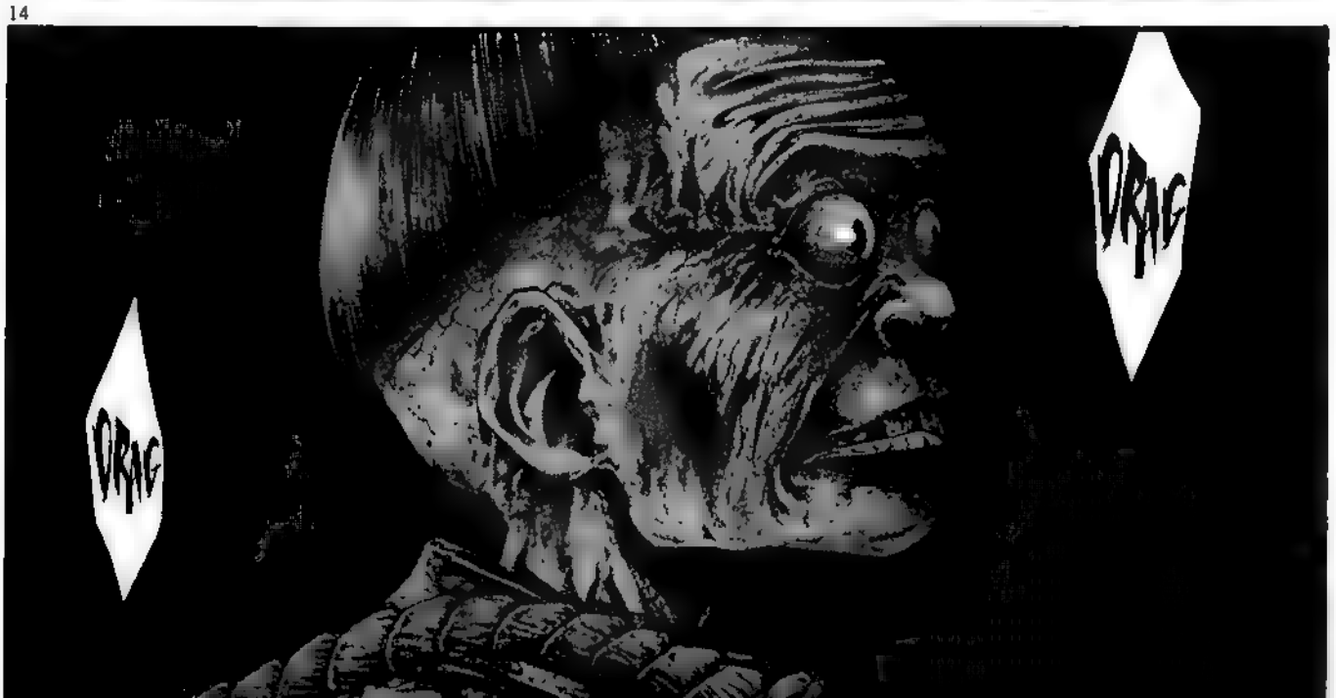
--SOMEONE ELSE HERE BEFORE US...?
WAS THERE--

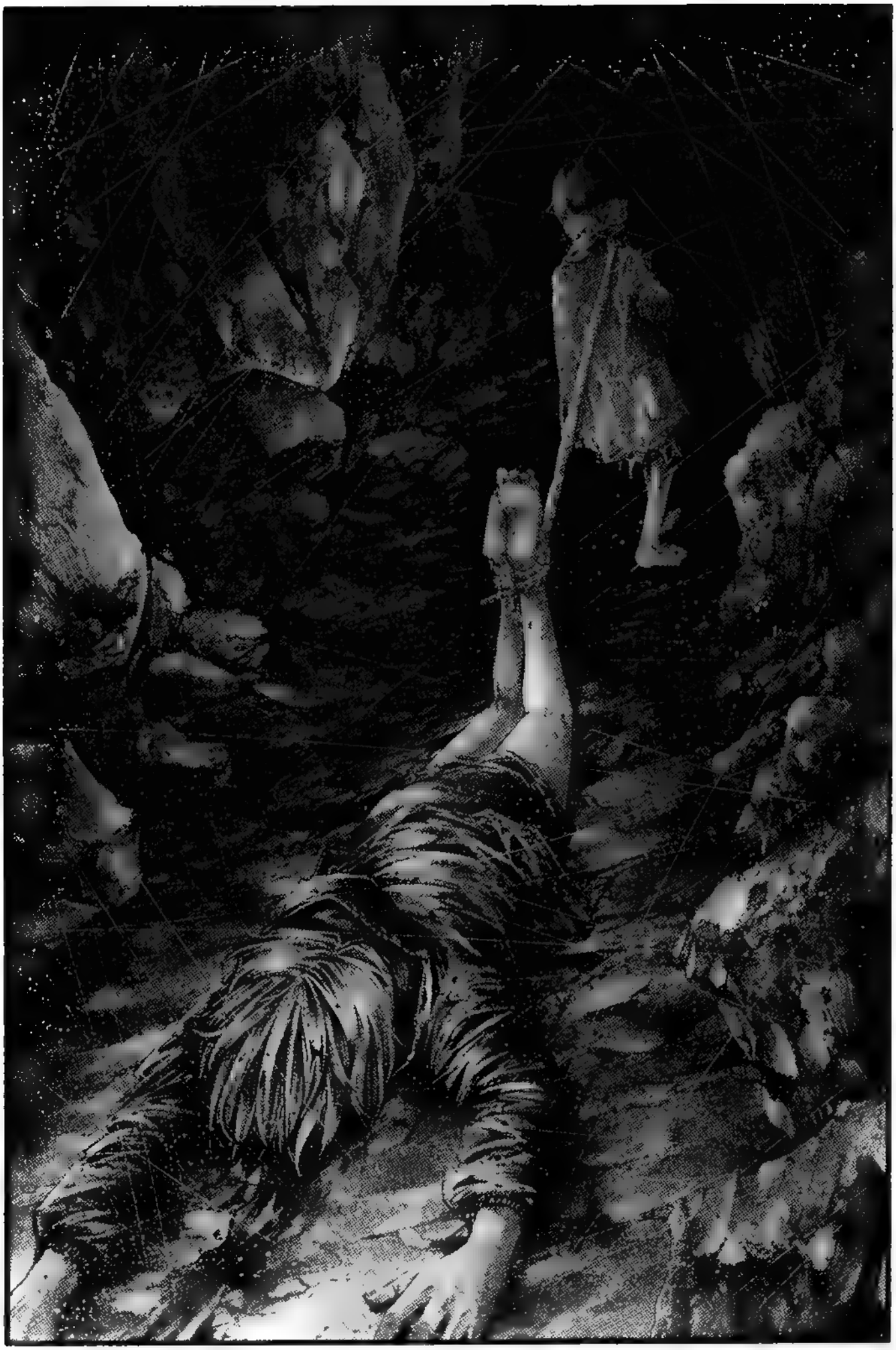

CRAG
CRAG
CRAG

CRAG
CRAG

CRAG
CRAG

CRAG
CRAG
CRAG


CRAG
CRAG



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KLANK

GAAR

WH-
WHAT THE FUCK?!
GRK
GRK
KLANK
WHOA!
PAD

SNSK

GRRZ

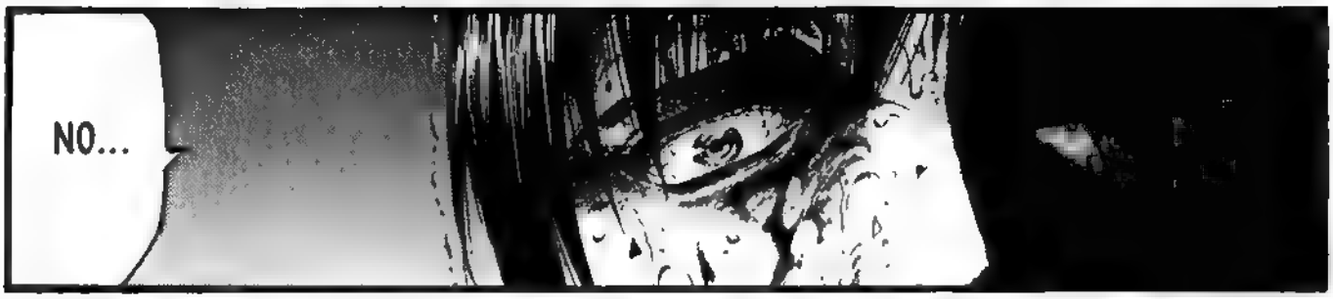
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?!
FUCK! FUCK!

SCRTCH

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

SCRTCH

WUMP

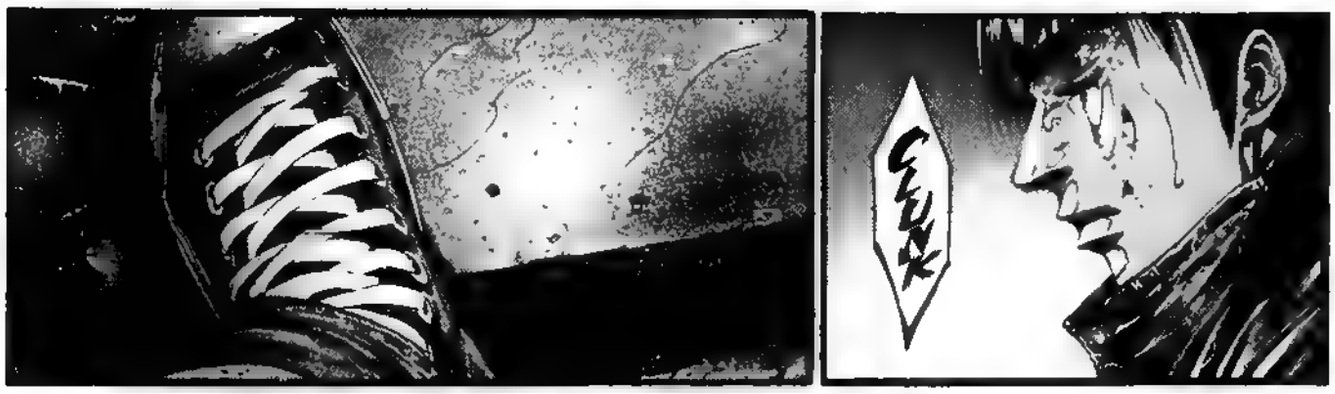

NO...

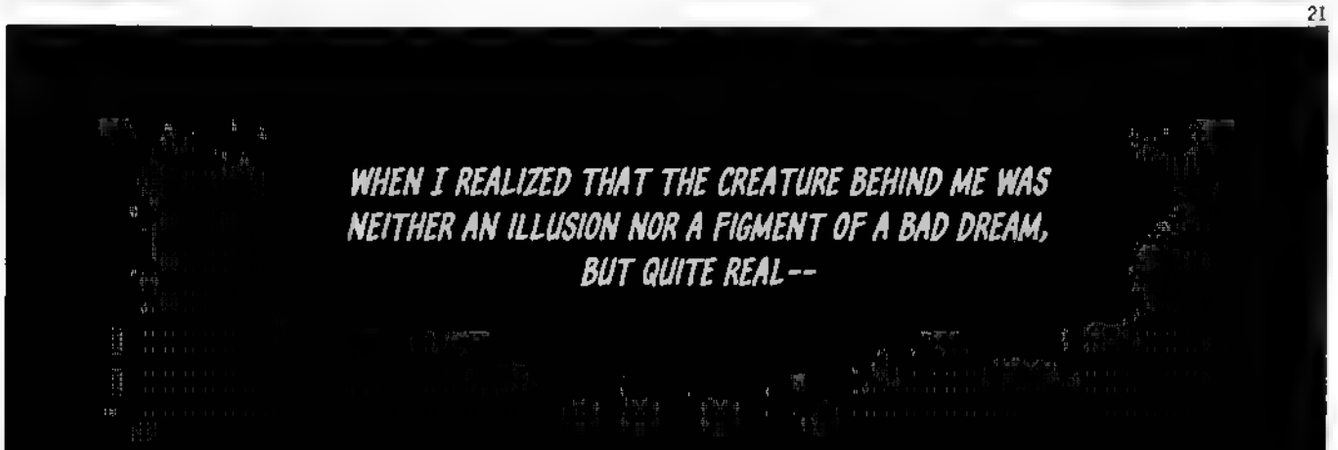
SCRATCH
THIS MUST BE A DREAM!
IT CAN'T BE REAL!
SWOOSH
SHASH
!

YOU'RE DREAMING!
WAKE UP, SEIICHI!

SCRATCH

SCRATCH
SCRATCH


GUNK


WHEN I REALIZED THAT THE CREATURE BEHIND ME WAS
NEITHER AN ILLUSION NOR A FIGMENT OF A BAD DREAM,
BUT QUITE REAL--

--MY ANXIETY TURNED TO SHEER TERROR...

FOR A BRIEF MOMENT, I FOUND MYSELF WONDERING HOW I GOT TO THIS POINT...
BUT I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO PONDER THE THOUGHT...

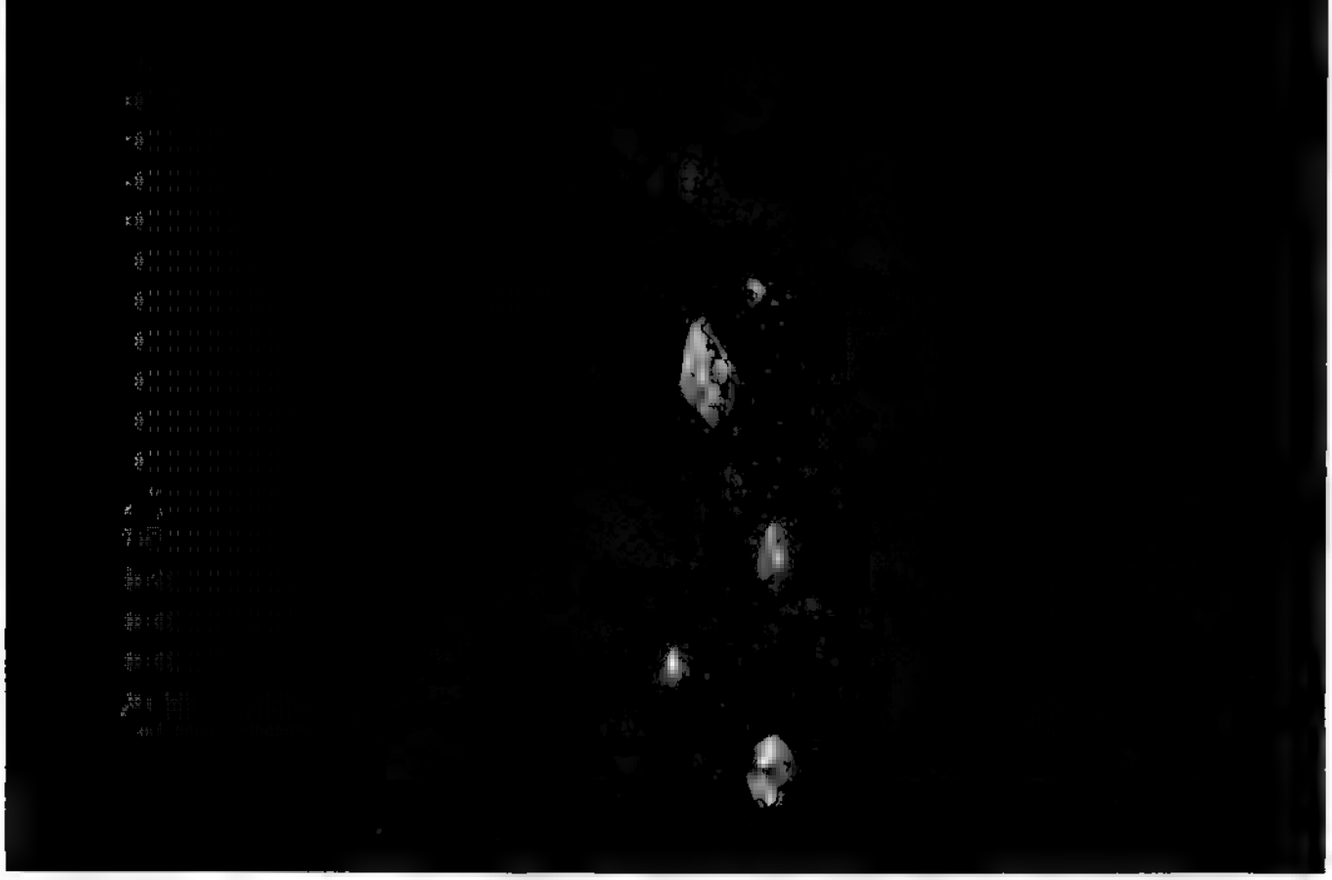
MY MIND WAS NUMBED WITH FEAR...
THE FEAR OF DEATH, AND--

2

--THE FEAR OF THE UNKNOWN IN FRONT OF ME...

!
GRAAH

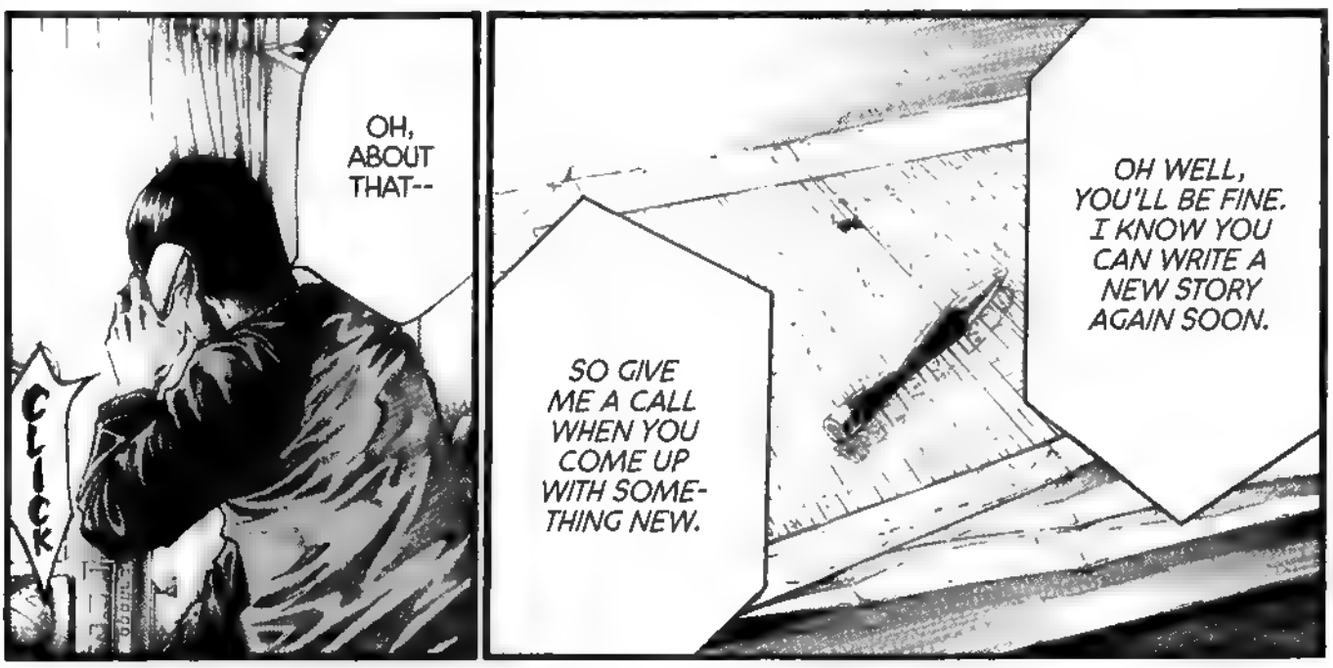
4



5

YOU'RE... CANCEL-LING MY NOVEL?

FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH, I LIKE YOUR WORK.
YES, I'M VERY SORRY. OUR CHIEF EDITOR SAYS THAT YOUR STORY IS NOT SUITABLE FOR OUR AUDIENCE...


OH, ABOUT THAT--
CLICK
SO GIVE ME A CALL WHEN YOU COME UP WITH SOME-THING NEW.
OH WELL, YOU'LL BE FINE. I KNOW YOU CAN WRITE A NEW STORY AGAIN SOON.

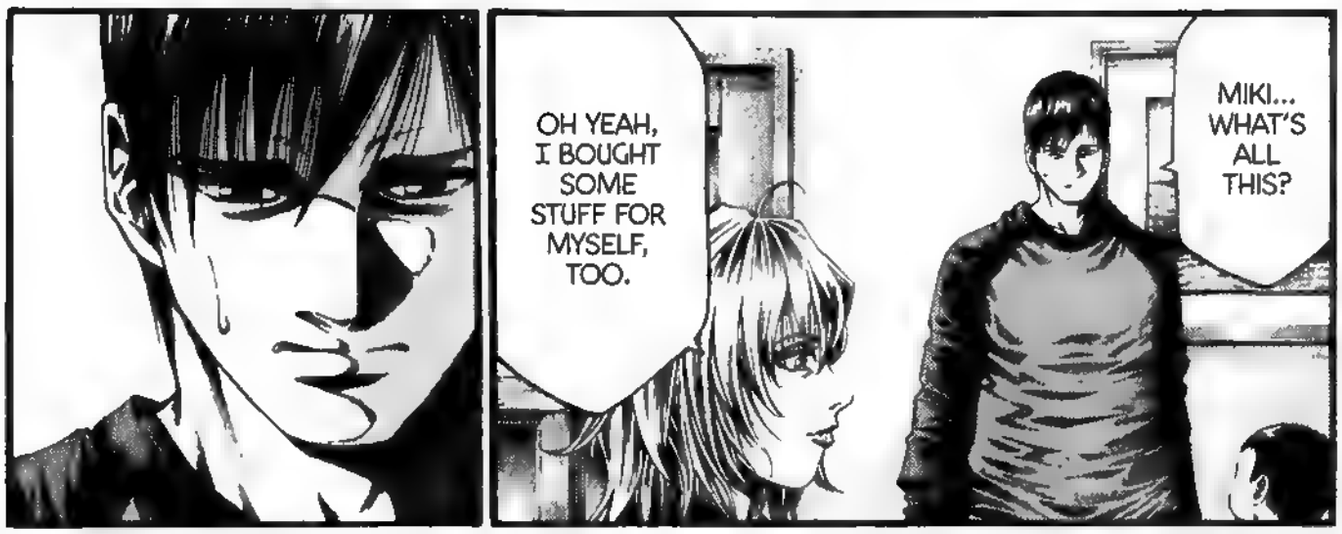
TUCUT
TUCUT
TUCUT

WE'RE HOME!
BEEP

OUT SHOPPING. JUN NEEDED A FEW THINGS.
HI... WHERE HAVE YOU TWO BEEN?

!
HELLO, CHAMP! DID YOU HAVE FUN SHOPPING WITH MOMMY?
DADDY! I'M BAAACK!

ISUTANI
GUCCI
CHANEL


MIKI... WHAT'S ALL THIS?
OH YEAH, I BOUGHT SOME STUFF FOR MYSELF, TOO.

HEY, YOU LOOK KIND OF DOWN.
SOME-THING WRONG?
GRIP
I JUST GOT A CALL FROM THE EDITOR IN CHARGE OF MY WORK...
WELL...

ARE YOU OKAY, DADDY?

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
YEAH, DADDY'S FINE!

JERK

!
ESP

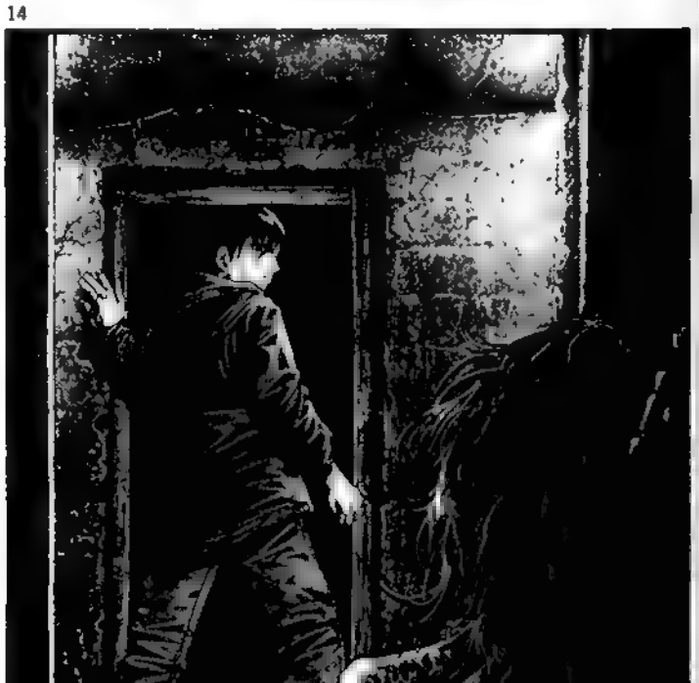
KRNCH
THE OTHER GUY...
WHERE... IS HE?

THANK GOD...
≥PHEW...≤

...
A LIGHT?
!

WHAT--
--IS THIS PLACE?

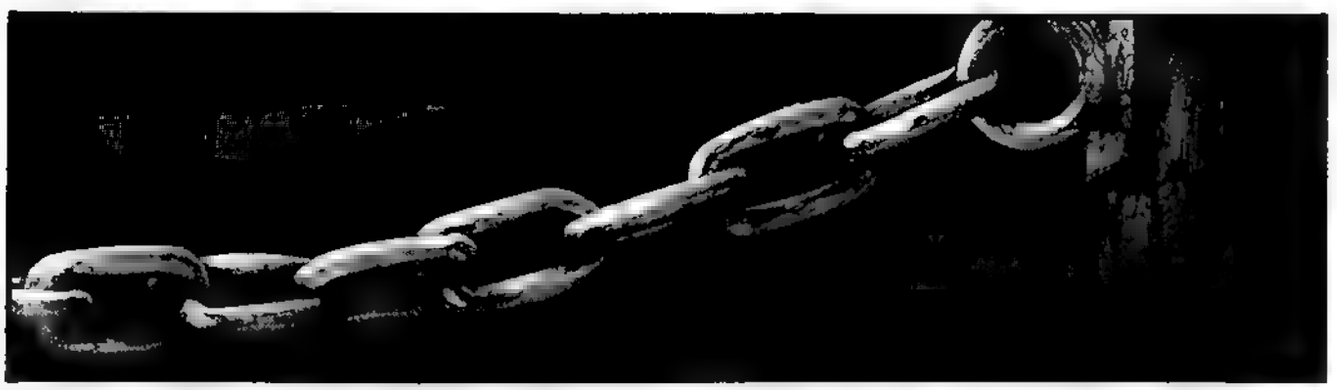
KRCH

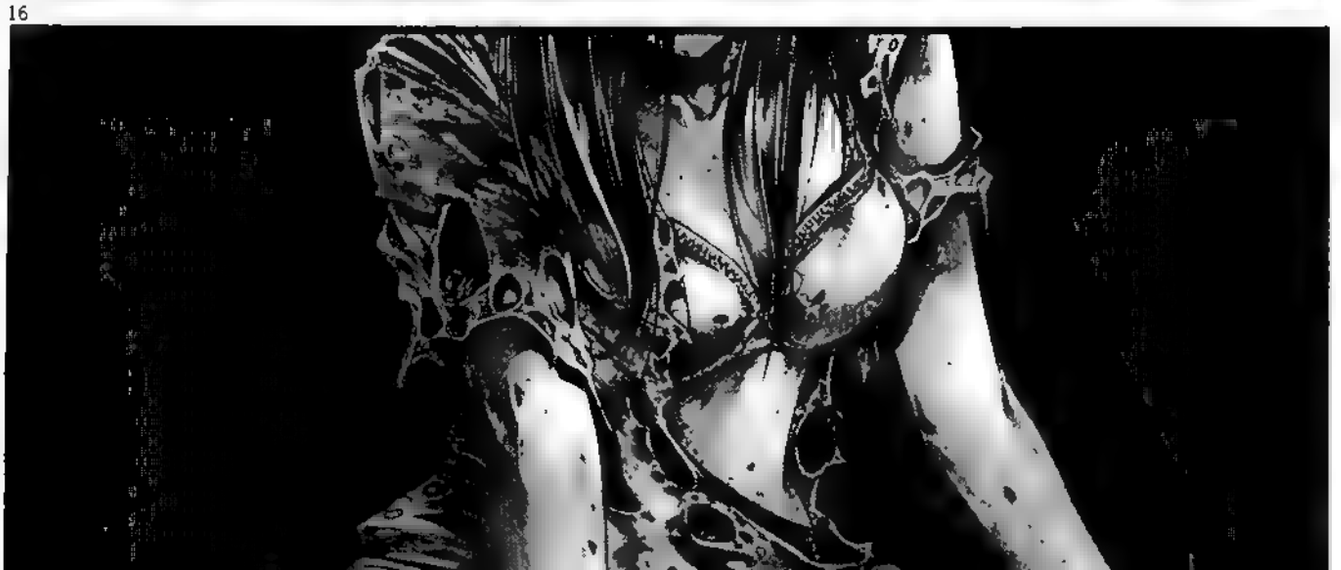


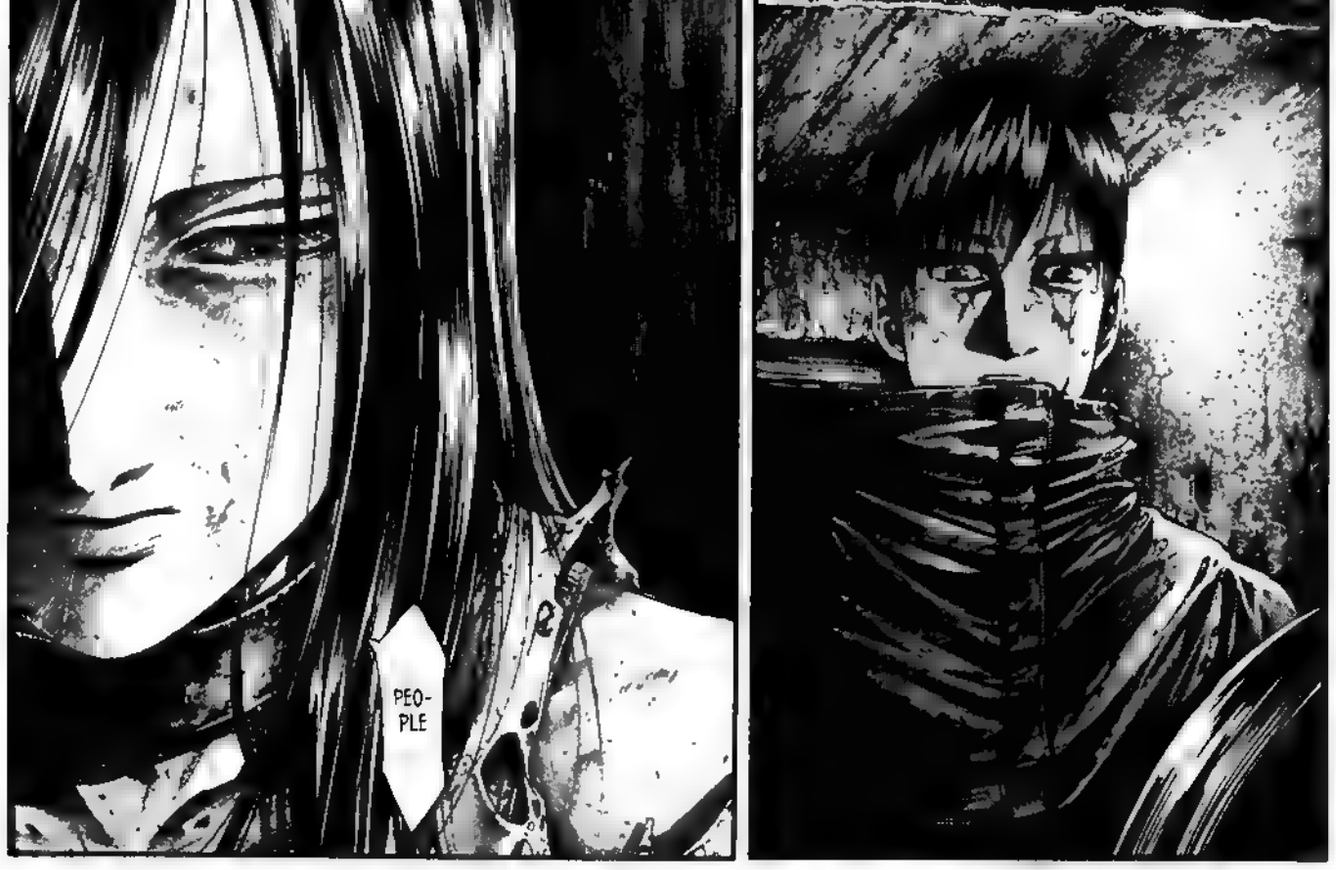
WHERE THE HELL AM I?!
JESUS! WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE?!
KYUU

YOU POOR THING ...

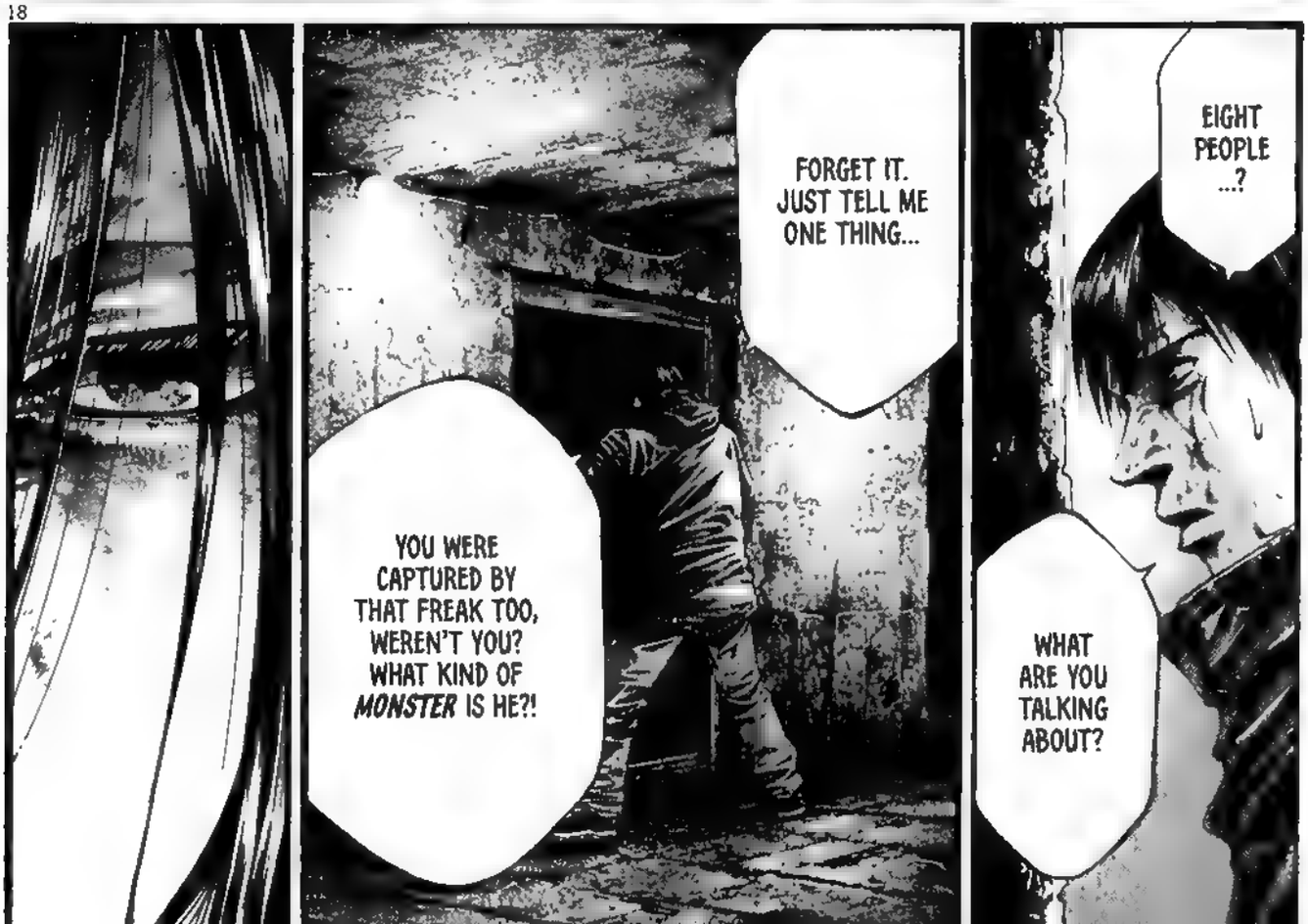
STEP






PEO-
PLE

EIGHT
PEO
PLE


EIGHT PEOPLE ...?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
FORGET IT. JUST TELL ME ONE THING...
YOU WERE CAPTURED BY THAT FREAK TOO, WEREN'T YOU? WHAT KIND OF *MONSTER* IS HE?!

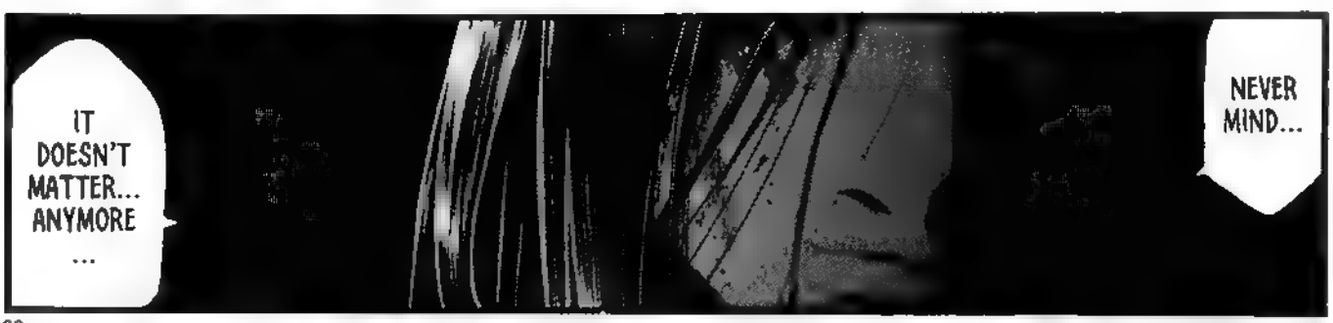
...ALL DEAD...
... THEY'RE ...

THE NINTH ONE...
YOU'RE ...

TELL ME...
PLEASE ...

HOW'S HE DOING?
THE LITTLE BOY...

WHAT BOY?


NEVER MIND...
IT DOESN'T MATTER... ANYMORE ...

YOU'RE DAMN RIGHT IT DOESN'T!
JUST TELL ME HOW TO GET OUT OF HERE!
BAM

AND I PROMISE I'LL FREE YOU FROM THIS PLACE!
PLEASE! TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU KNOW!

WELL ...?

DIED...
THEY ALL...

AND THEN MY TERROR TURNED TO DESPAIR...

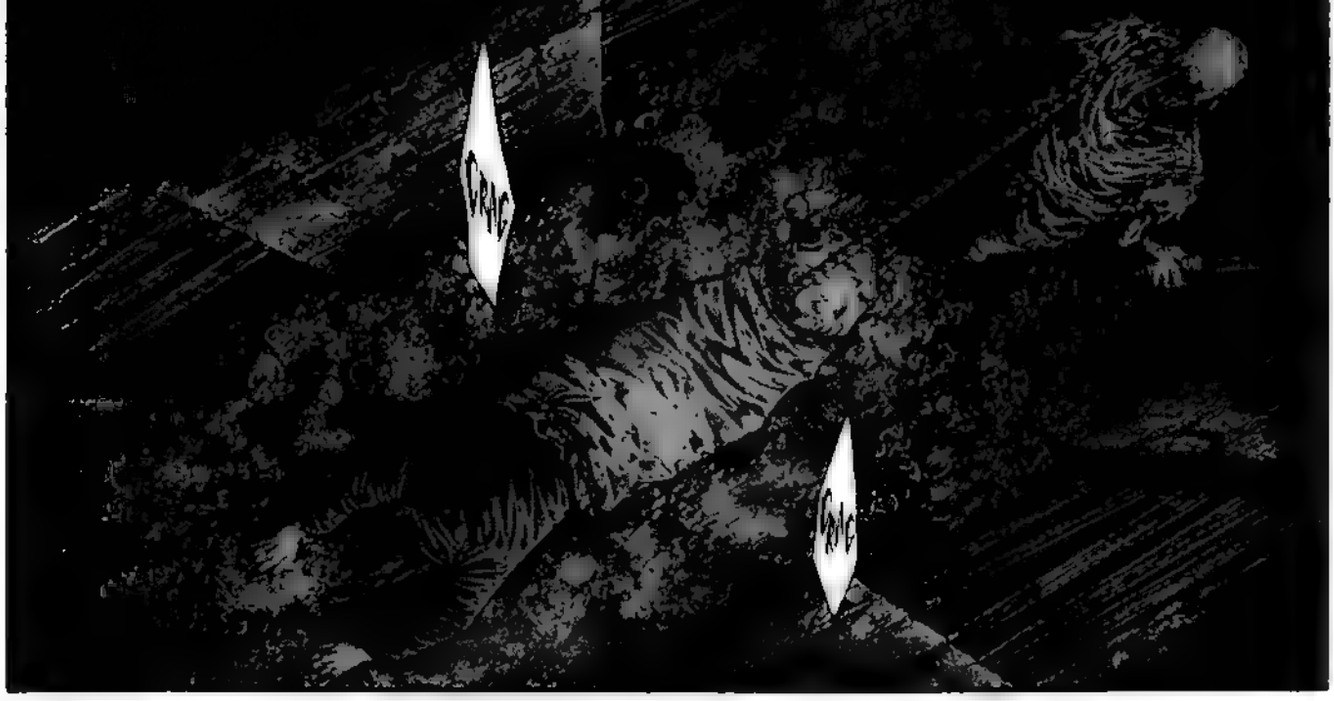
CRAC
CRAC
CRAC
Chapter.4 Help me

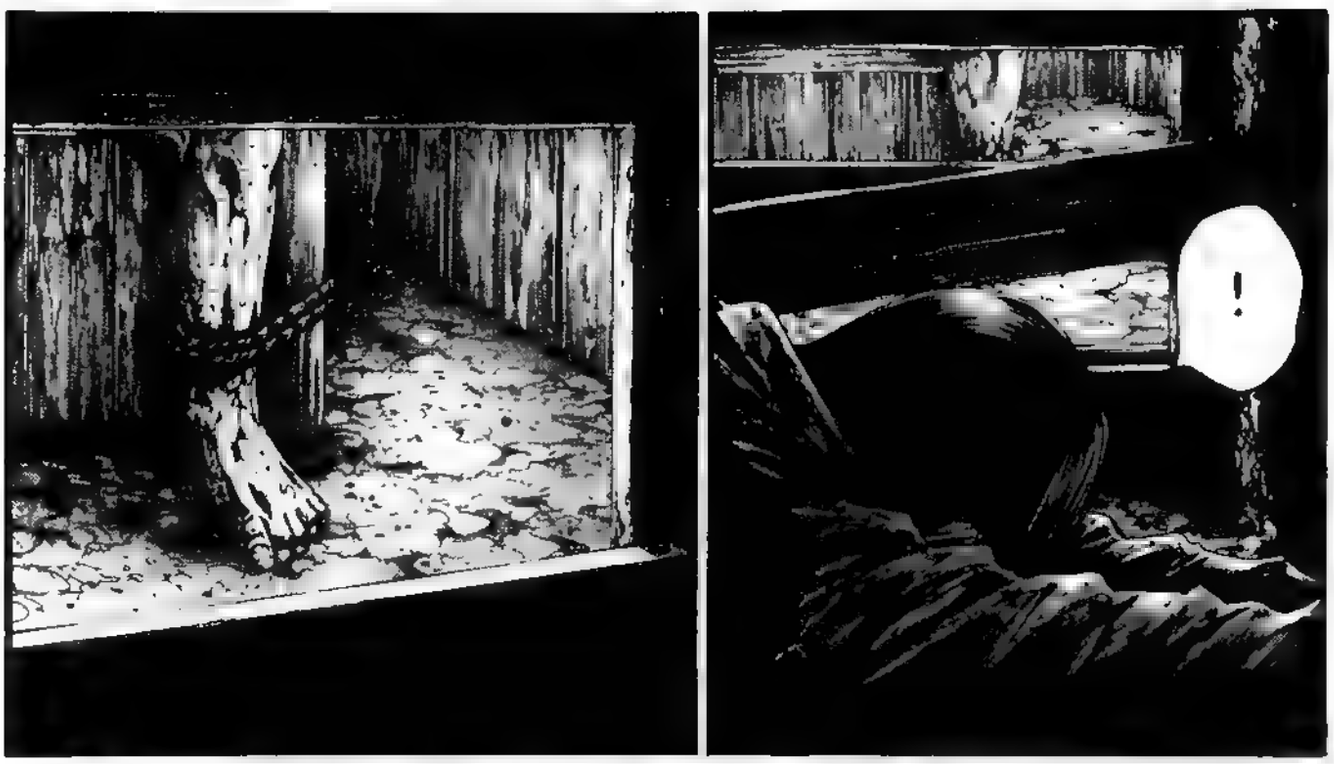
CRAC
CRAC
CRAC

CRAC
CRAC
CRAC

CRAC
CRAC

Chapter.4 Help me


CRAC
CRAC


!

A MAN ...?
A-

JUST... LET ME DIE ALREADY...
I CAN'T TAKE IT... ANY-MORE...

4

I'M... *BEGGING* YOU...

PLEASE ...

SIGN: SHOGAKU PUBLISHING COMPANY.

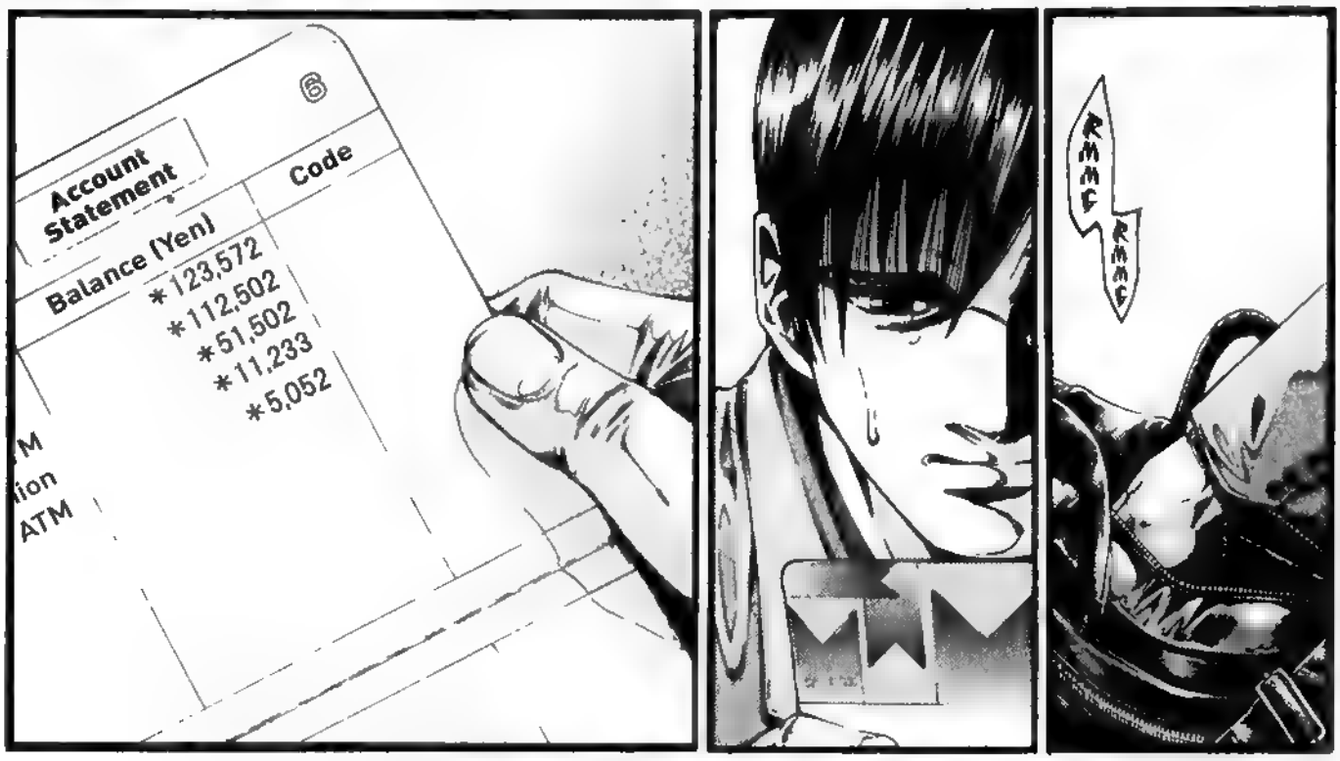
FLAP
IF I MAY ASK, HOW MANY PUBLISHERS HAVE YOU SHOWN THIS MANUSCRIPT TO TODAY, MR. KIRISHIMA?
WELL... YOU'RE THE FOURTH.
SO...
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

WITH A QUALITY THIS POOR, YOUR WORK WON'T BE ACCEPTED HERE OR ANYWHERE ELSE.
I'LL BE COMPLETELY HONEST WITH YOU...

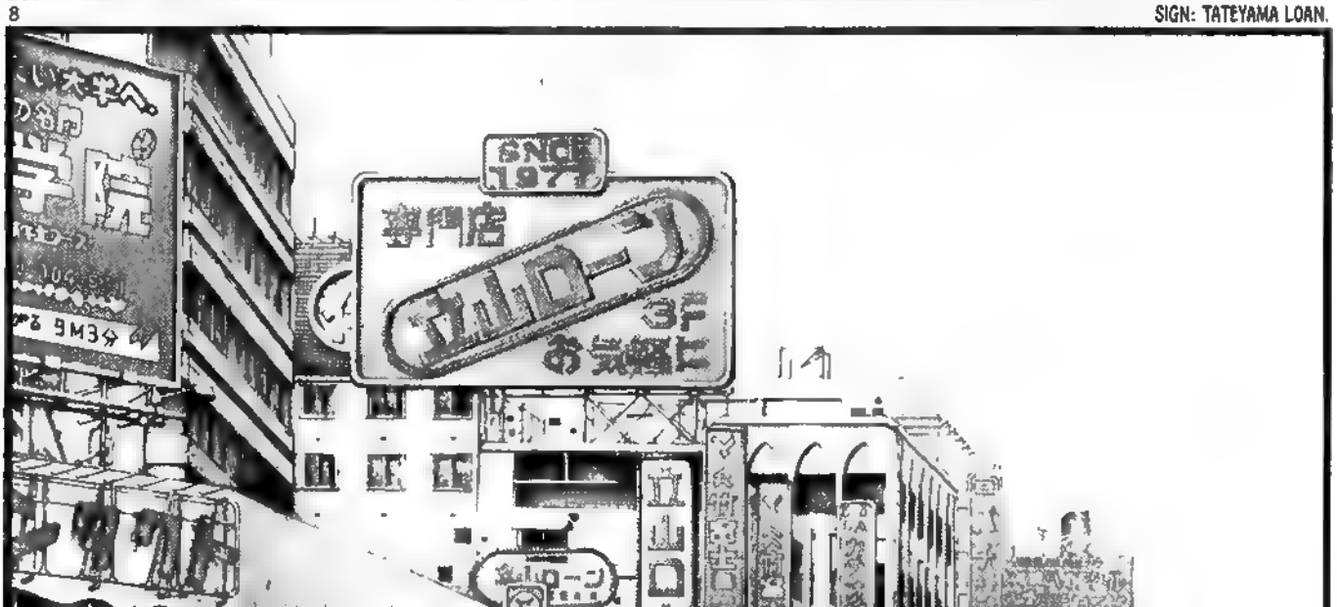
RRING
RRING
RRING

HI, HONEY!
HOW'D IT GO?
YOU *GOT* THE JOB?
THAT'S *FANTASTIC!* CONGRATU-LATIONS!
WELL THEN, COULD YOU DO THE SHOPPING ON THE WAY BACK?
LET'S CELEBRATE TONIGHT!
MOMMY, HOW WAS DADDY'S WORK?
HEHEHE! GUESS WHAT, JUN.

DADDY SAYS IT WENT WELL!
REALLY? YAAAY!
COME ON, JUN. HELP ME GET READY FOR DINNER.
OKAY!



SIGN: TATEYAMA LOAN.



HOW LONG WAS I LOCKED UP IN THAT ROOM?

A DAY? A WEEK? I COULD NO LONGER TELL...

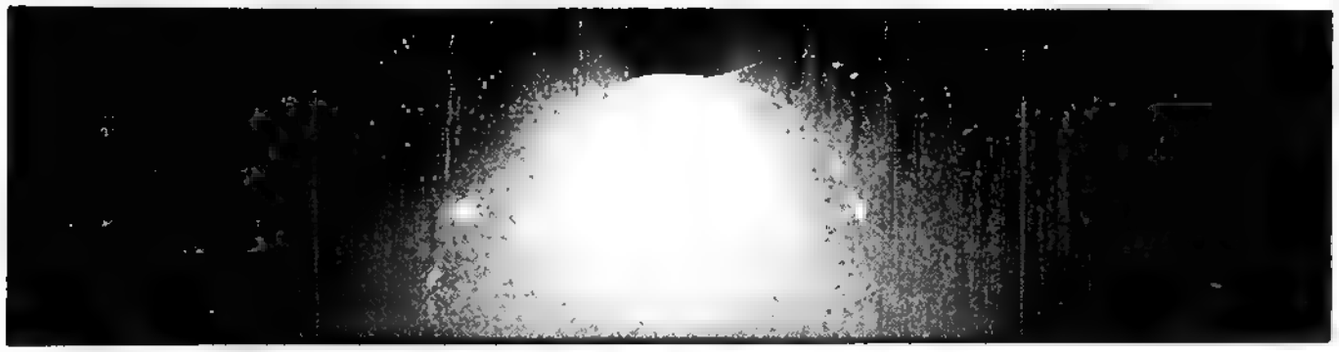
ON TOP OF DRIVING YOU CRAZY, THE DARKNESS AND ISOLATION ALSO ROBBED YOU OF ALL YOUR SENSE OF TIME...

...
HIM AGAIN ...
!

IT MIGHT SOUND BIZARRE, BUT THE ONLY THING KEEPING ME FROM COMPLETELY LOSING MY MIND WAS THE GHASTLY SCREAMS THAT EMANATED REGULARLY FROM THE NEIGHBORING ROOM...

THEY REMINDED ME THAT I WAS STILL ALIVE...

AND THEN, ONE DAY, THE SCREAMING STOPPED...



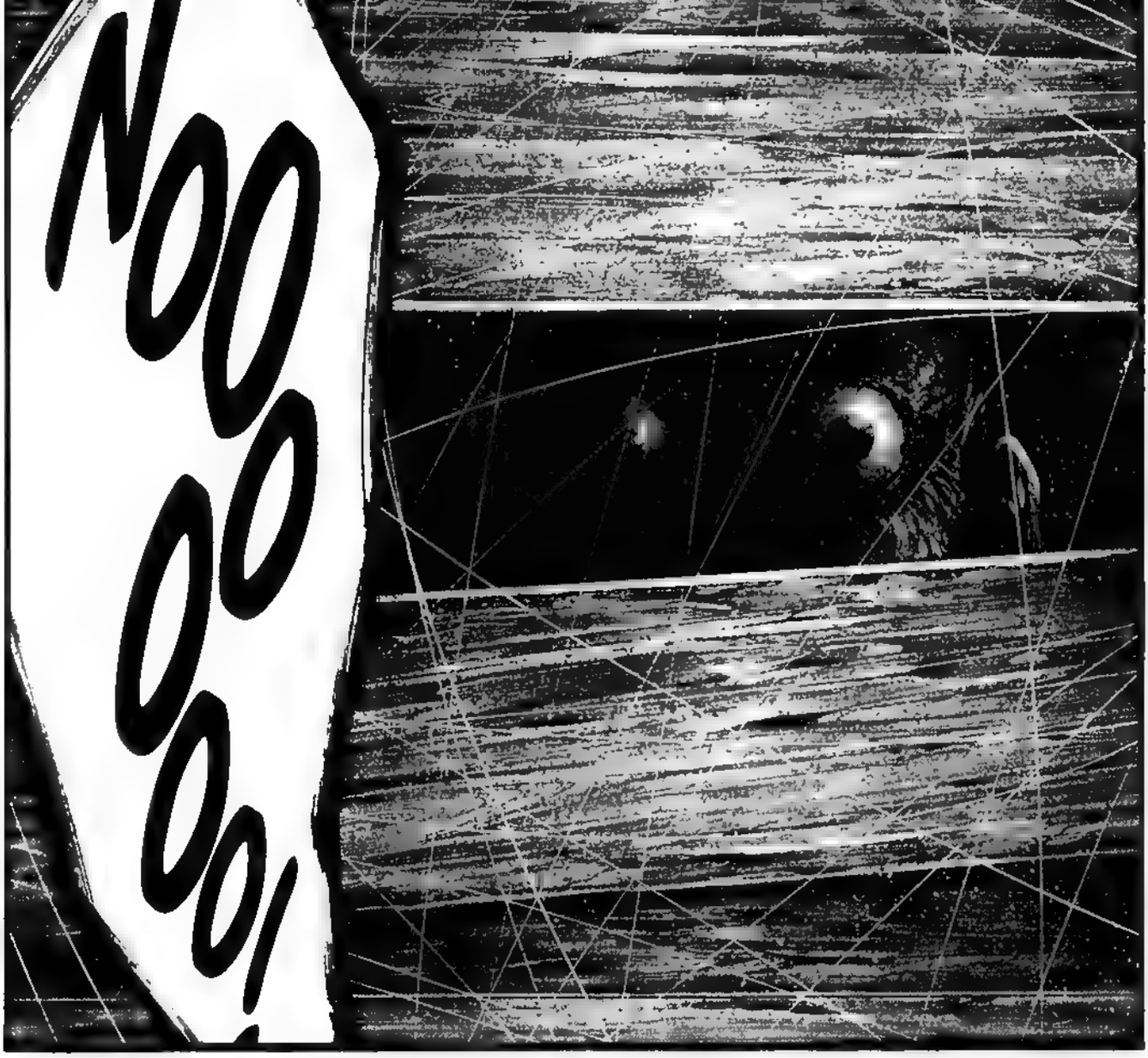
12

ALL THAT TIME I HAD BEEN TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHY HE STILL KEPT ME ALIVE...

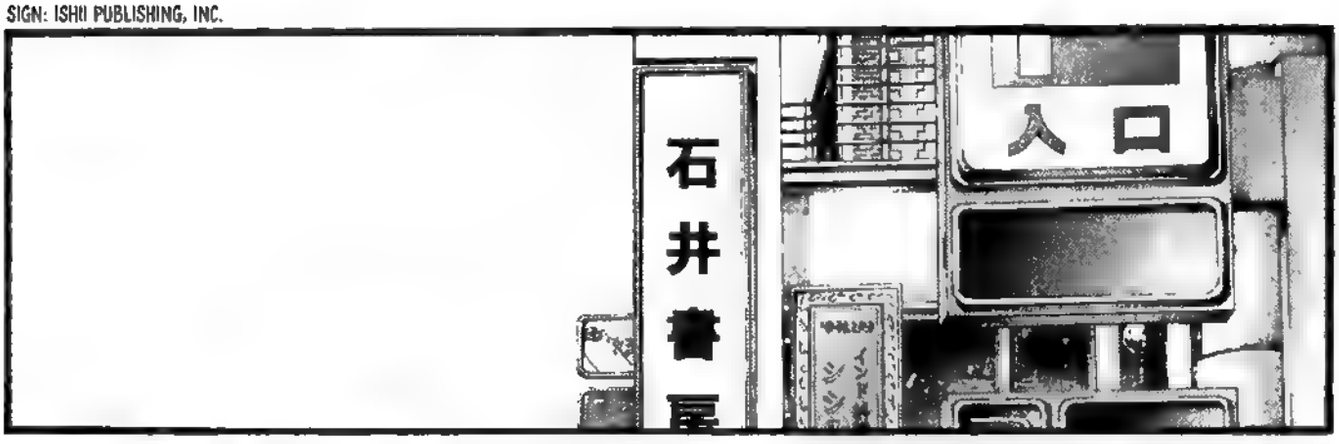
BUT THE ANSWER WAS SO OBVIOUS...

I WAS HIS MEAL...

AAAA



SIGN: ISHII PUBLISHING, INC.

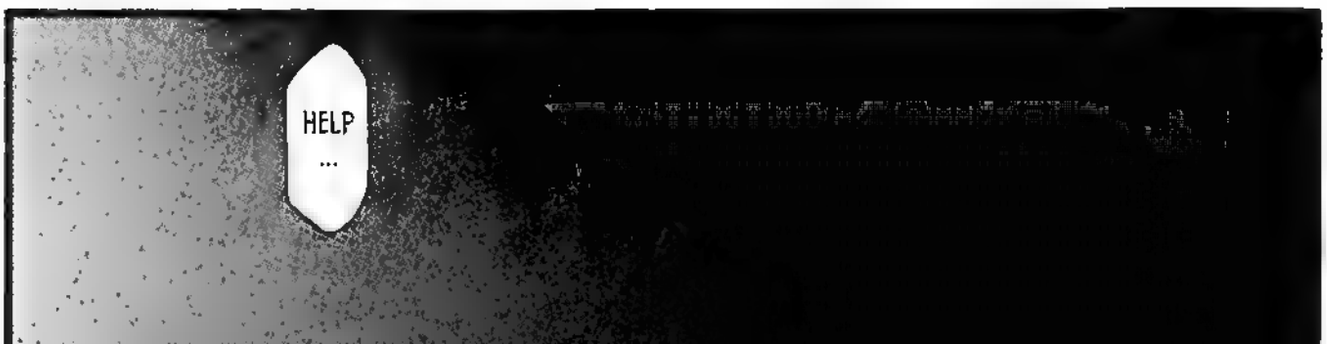


ISHII SYOBOU

I UNDER-
STAND,
BUT...
WE'RE JUST
A SMALL
PUBLISHING
COMPANY.
I'M AFRAID WE
HAVE NOTHING
TO OFFER
SOMEONE
LIKE YOU...
WHAT
HAPPENED
?
PLEASE
RAISE
YOUR
HEAD.
GIVE ME
A JOB,
PLEASE!
ANYTHING
WILL DO.
I'M
BEGGING
YOU!

I'LL DO
ANYTHING.
I'LL WRITE
ANYTHING.
IT DOESN'T
MATTER IF THE
MANUSCRIPT
PAYMENT IS
MINIMAL.

YOU
HAVE
TO HELP
ME!
PLEASE!
石井書店
入口


HELP
...

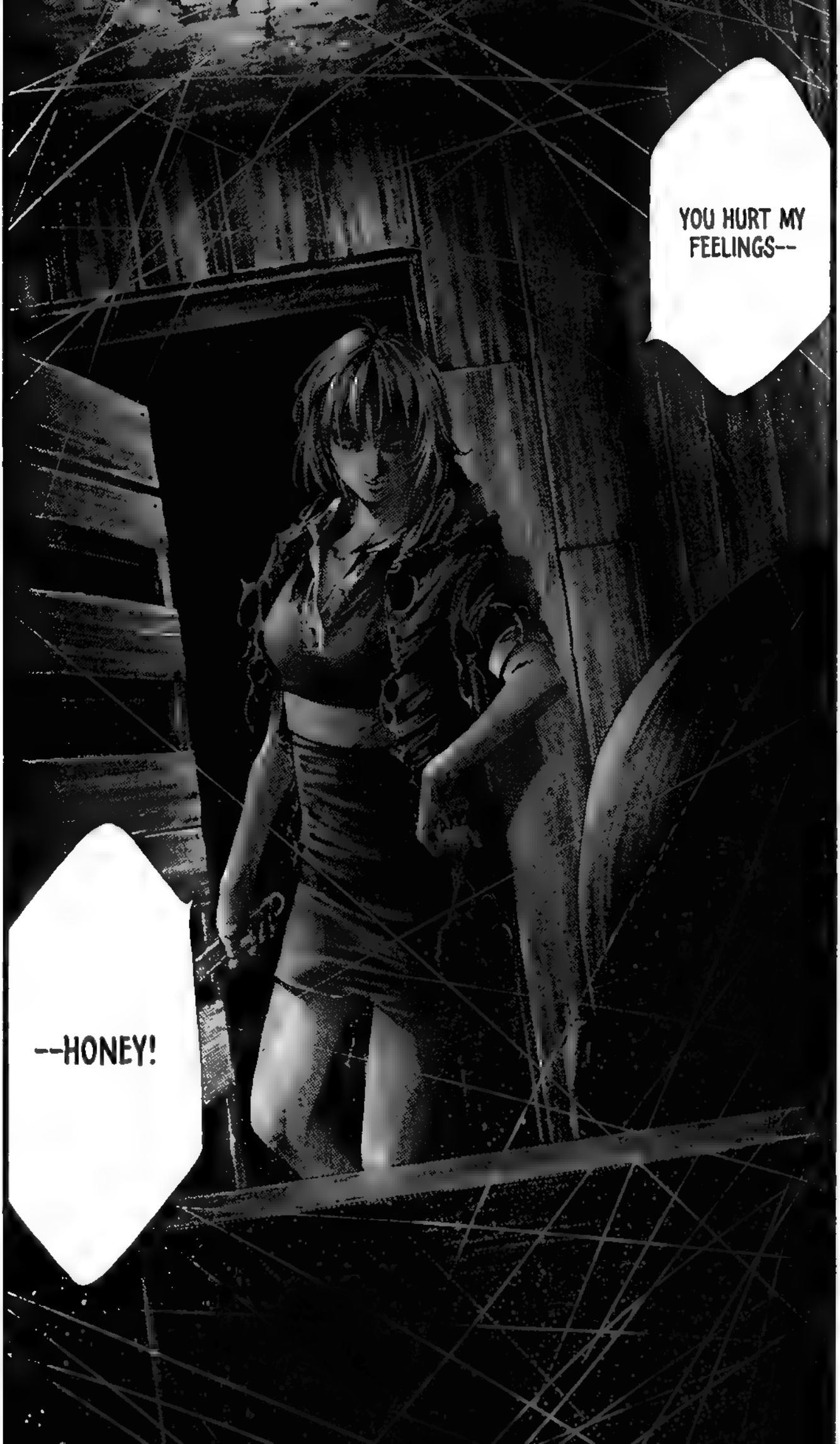
HELP ME.

HELP ME
PLEASE

!
CRRRK

IT CAN'T... BE...
NO...

DIDN'T YOU MISS ME?
WHY DO YOU LOOK SO SURPRISED TO SEE ME?

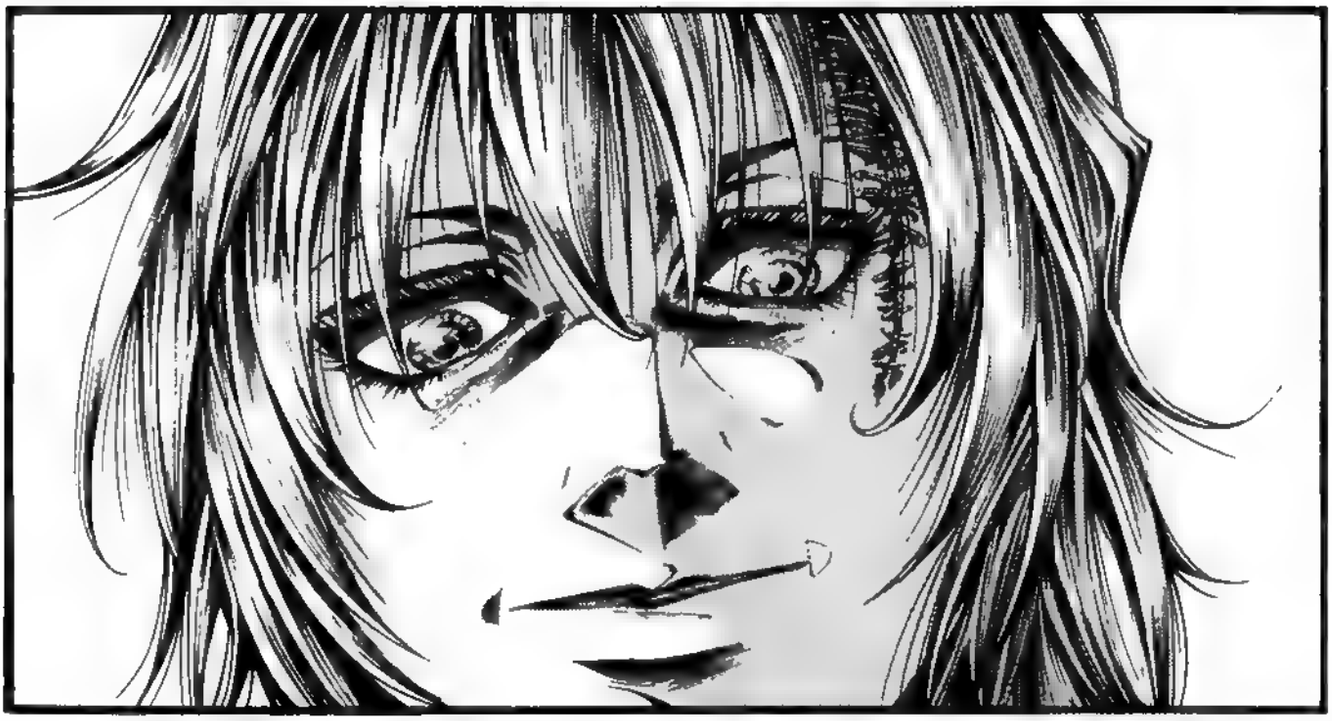

YOU HURT MY FEELINGS--
--HONEY!

A WAVE OF REMORSE SWEPT OVER ME...

BUT NOT BECAUSE I ATTEMPTED TO KILL MY WIFE...

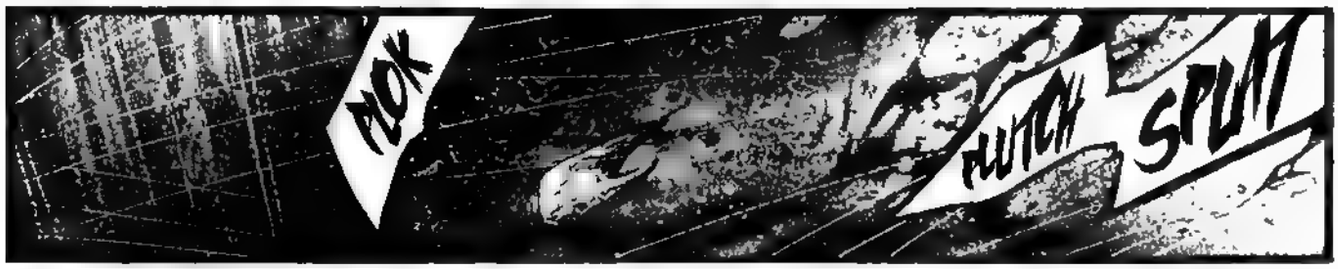
HONEY...
CHUG
Chapter.5 A reversal

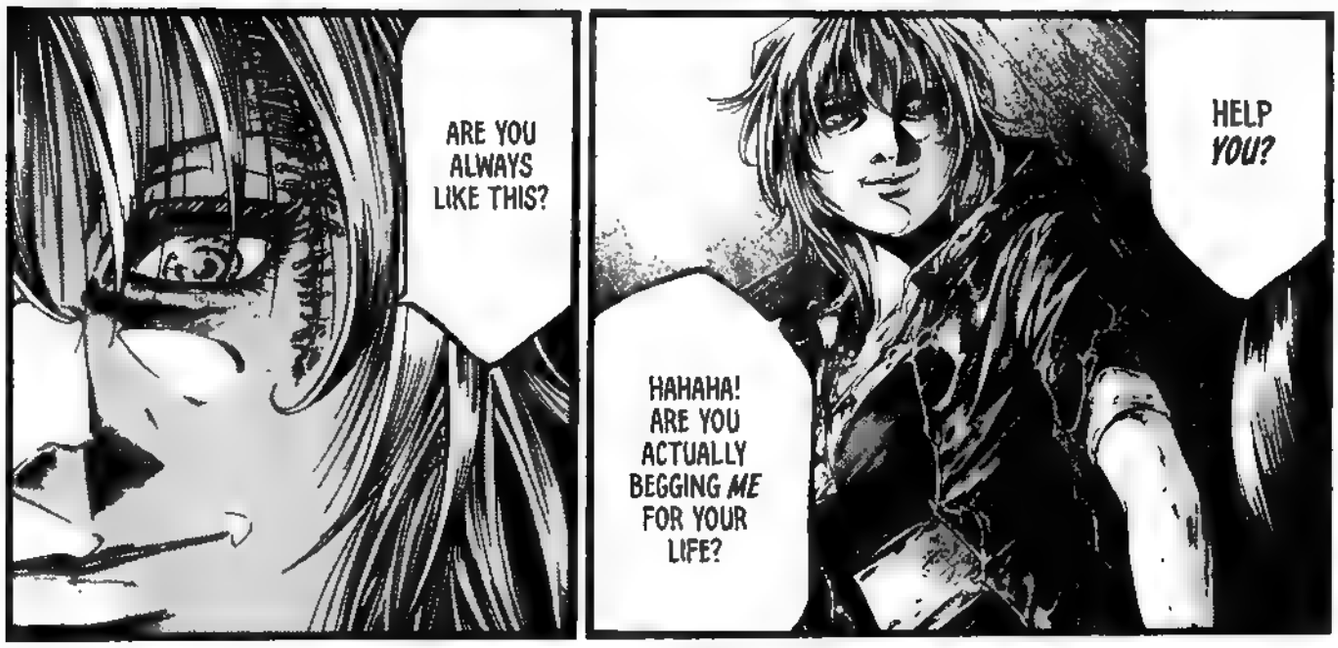
NO, IT WAS BECAUSE I FAILED TO FINISH THE JOB...



MIKI...
HELP M--
ONLY NOW OUR SITUATIONS ARE REVERSED--
--AND *YOU'RE* THE ONE ABOUT TO BE KILLED. HOW'S *THAT* FEEL?
SO TELL ME, SEIICHI, HOW'S IT *FEEL?*
YOU WERE SURE I WAS DEAD, AND YET HERE I AM...

GONK


NOK
PLUTCH
SPLAT


ARE YOU ALWAYS LIKE THIS?
HELP *YOU?*
HAHAHA! ARE YOU ACTUALLY BEGGING *ME* FOR YOUR LIFE?

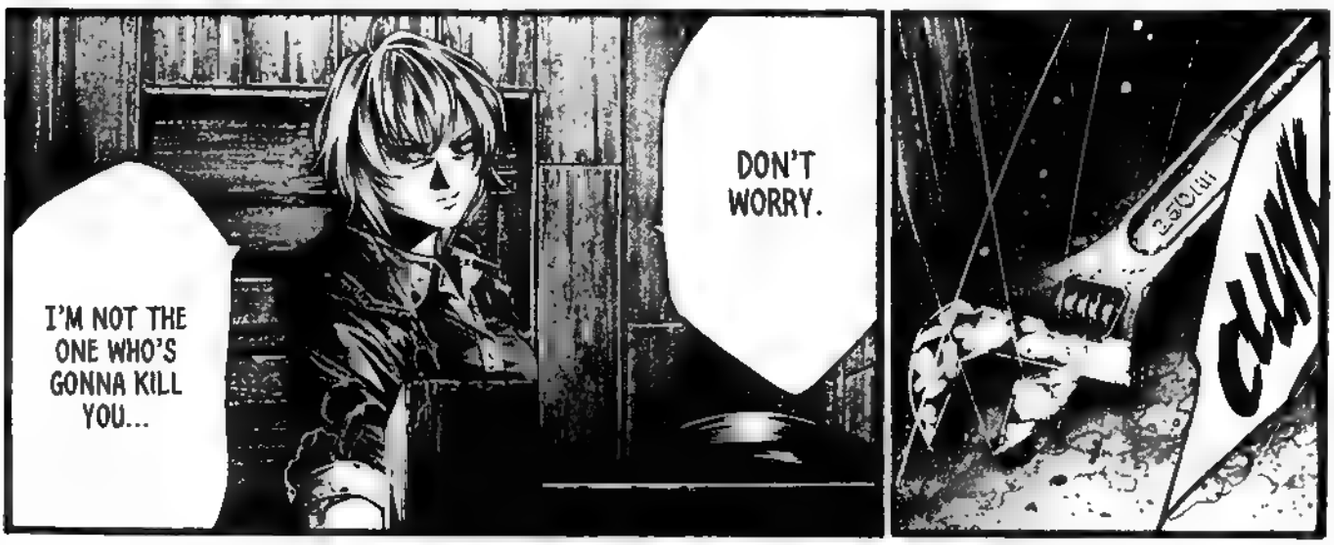
CLANK

KNOCK
TO TOP IT ALL, YOU EVEN BLAME ME FOR JUN'S DEATH!
YOU THINK YOU CAN START OVER BY KILLING ME?! THINK AGAIN, ASSHOLE!
THUD
YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING BY YOURSELF, BUT WHEN THINGS GO WRONG IT'S ALWAYS SOMEONE ELSE'S FAULT!
YOU BLAME THEM FOR THE FACT THAT YOU DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY OR A JOB!
KRACK

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

LOWLIFES LIKE YOU CAN *NEVER* START OVER. NOTHING WILL CHANGE.
YOU'LL ONLY BE REPEATING THE SAME MISTAKES OVER AND OVER.
DRIP
DRIP
DRIP

HELP...
HELP... ME...

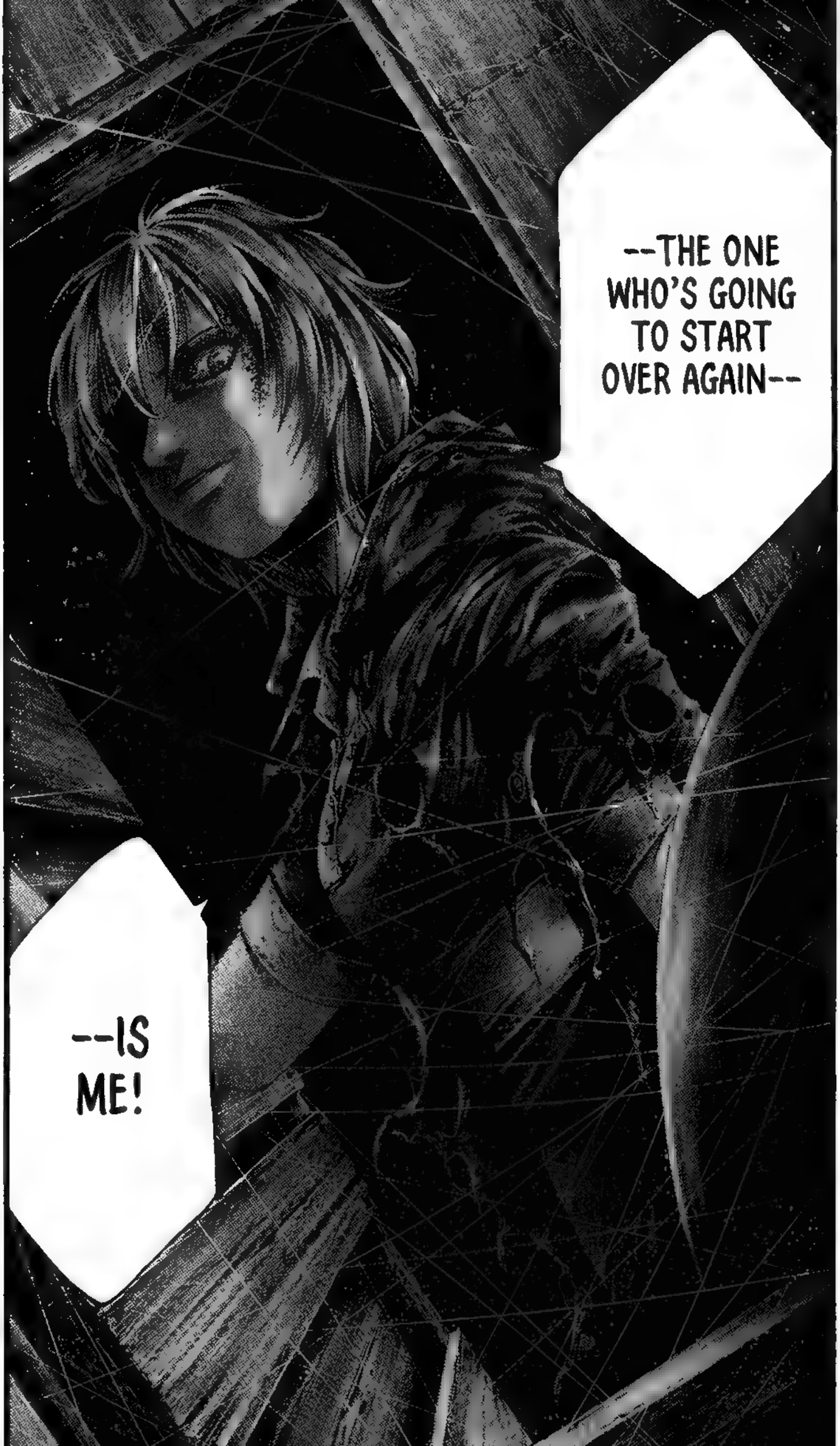

I'M NOT THE ONE WHO'S GONNA KILL YOU...
DON'T WORRY.
CLINK

HE'S GOT A SOFT SPOT FOR WOMEN, WON'T HARM THEM. HE EVEN TREATED MY WOUNDS...
I'M SURE YOU'VE ALREADY MET THAT MONSTER...

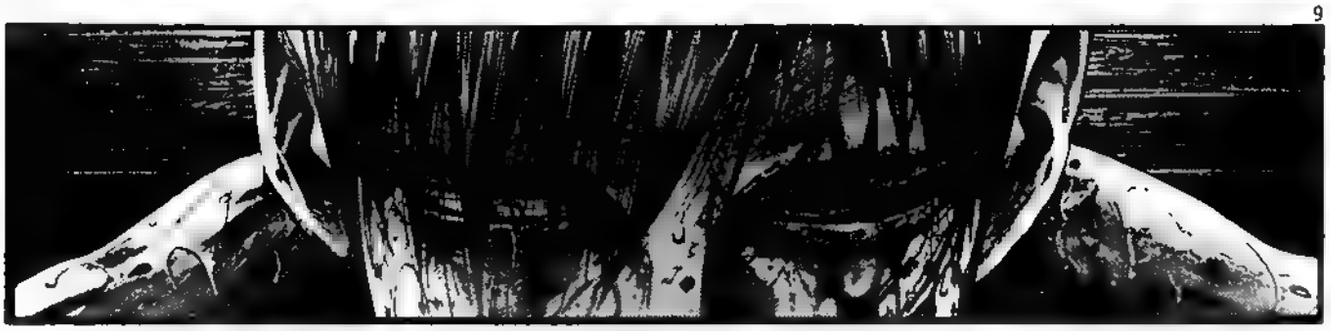
TO MAKE THAT HAPPEN, I'M READY TO DO ANYTHING...
EVEN FRATERNIZING WITH THAT MONSTER...
STEP
SOONER OR LATER I'M GONNA GET OUT OF HERE ALIVE...

CRAK
I'M GONNA TELL EVERYBODY YOU DIED IN A TRAGIC ACCIDENT DURING THE TRIP.
I'M GONNA PLAY THE GRIEVING WIDOW WHO COLLECTS HER HUSBAND'S LIFE INSURANCE.
ONCE I'M FREE, I'M GONNA BURY MY MEMORIES OF THIS PLACE...
THIS CAVE, THAT MONSTER, EVERYTHING!

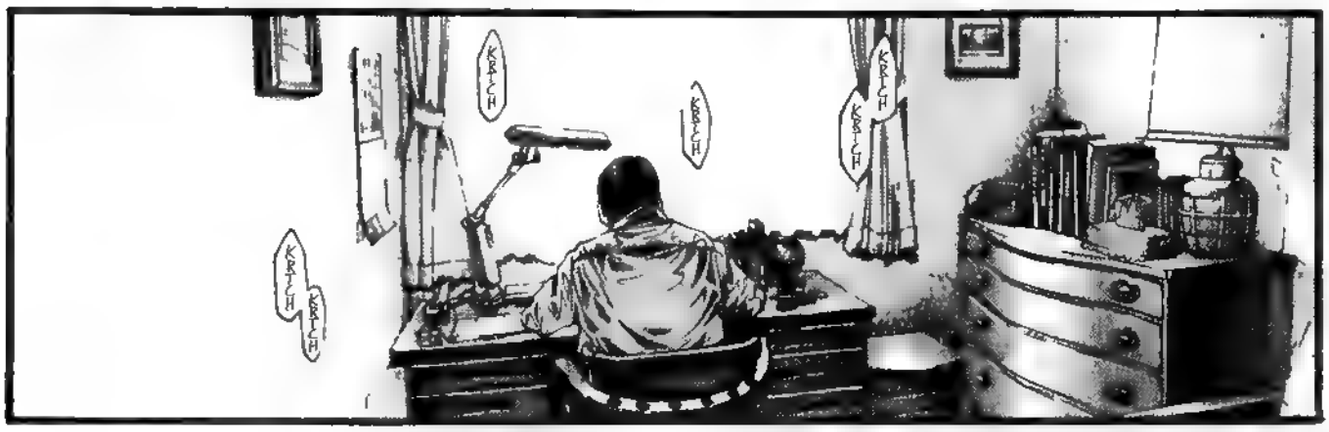
--BUT IT LOOKS LIKE--
TOO BAD FOR YOU, SEIICHI--


--THE ONE WHO'S GOING TO START OVER AGAIN--
--IS ME!

SLAM



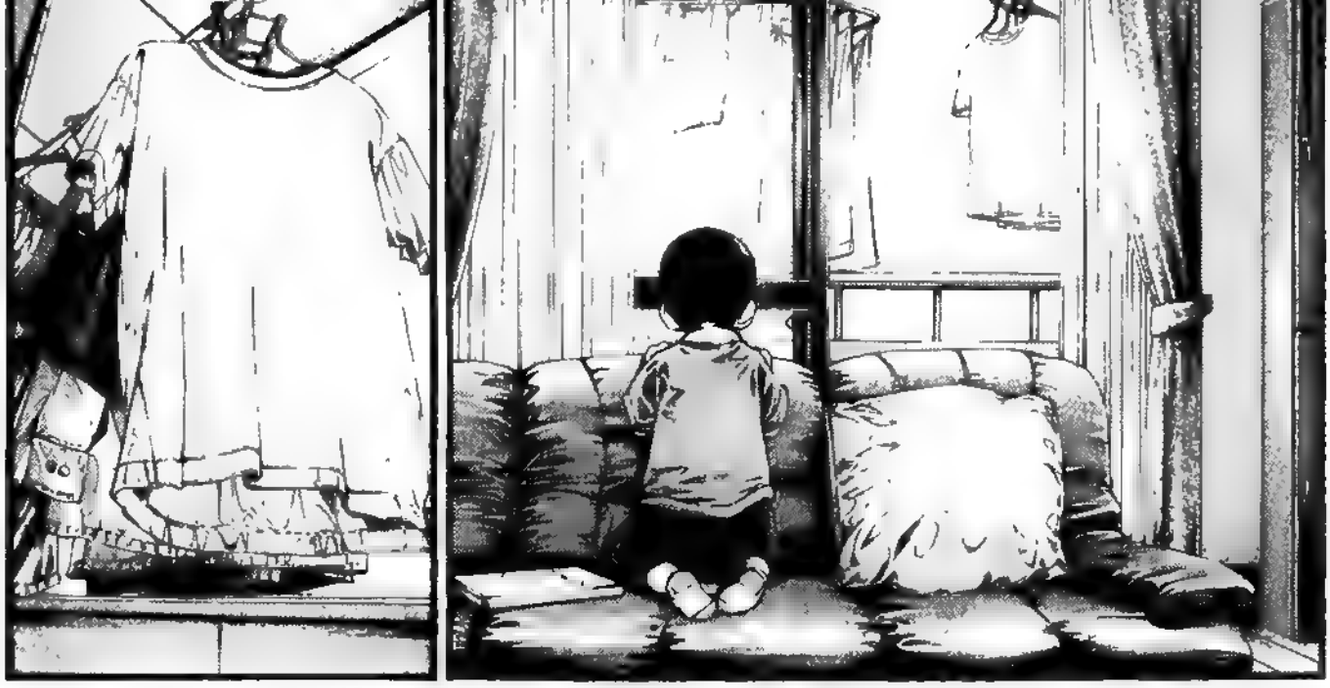
SONY
KRAICH
KRAICH
KRAICH

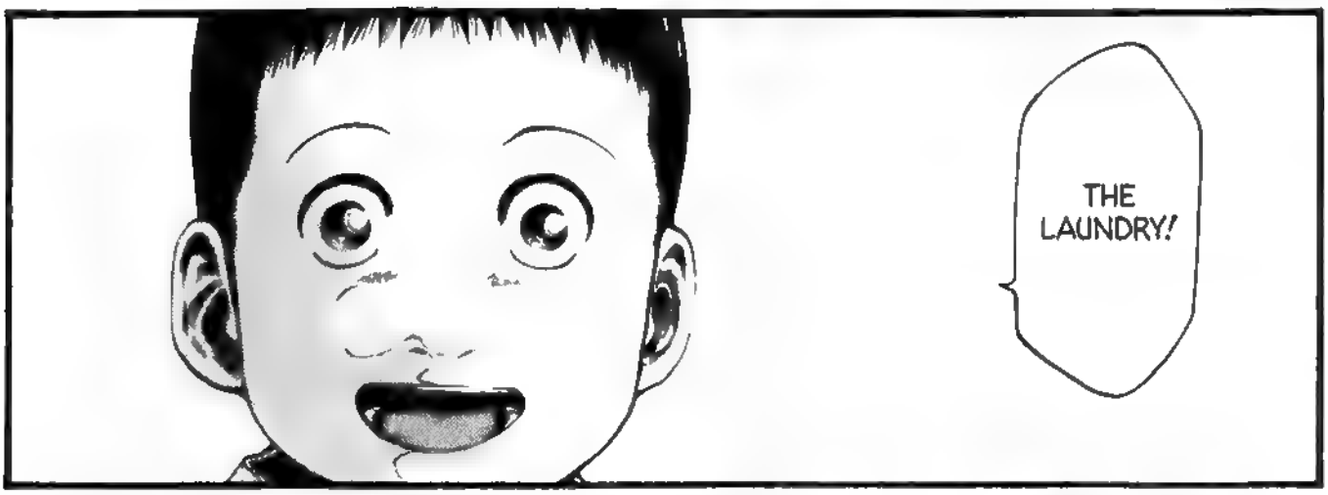

KRAICH
KRAICH
KRAICH
KRAICH

I NEED A NEW PURSE.
EH? SHOPPING? SURE, COUNT ME IN!

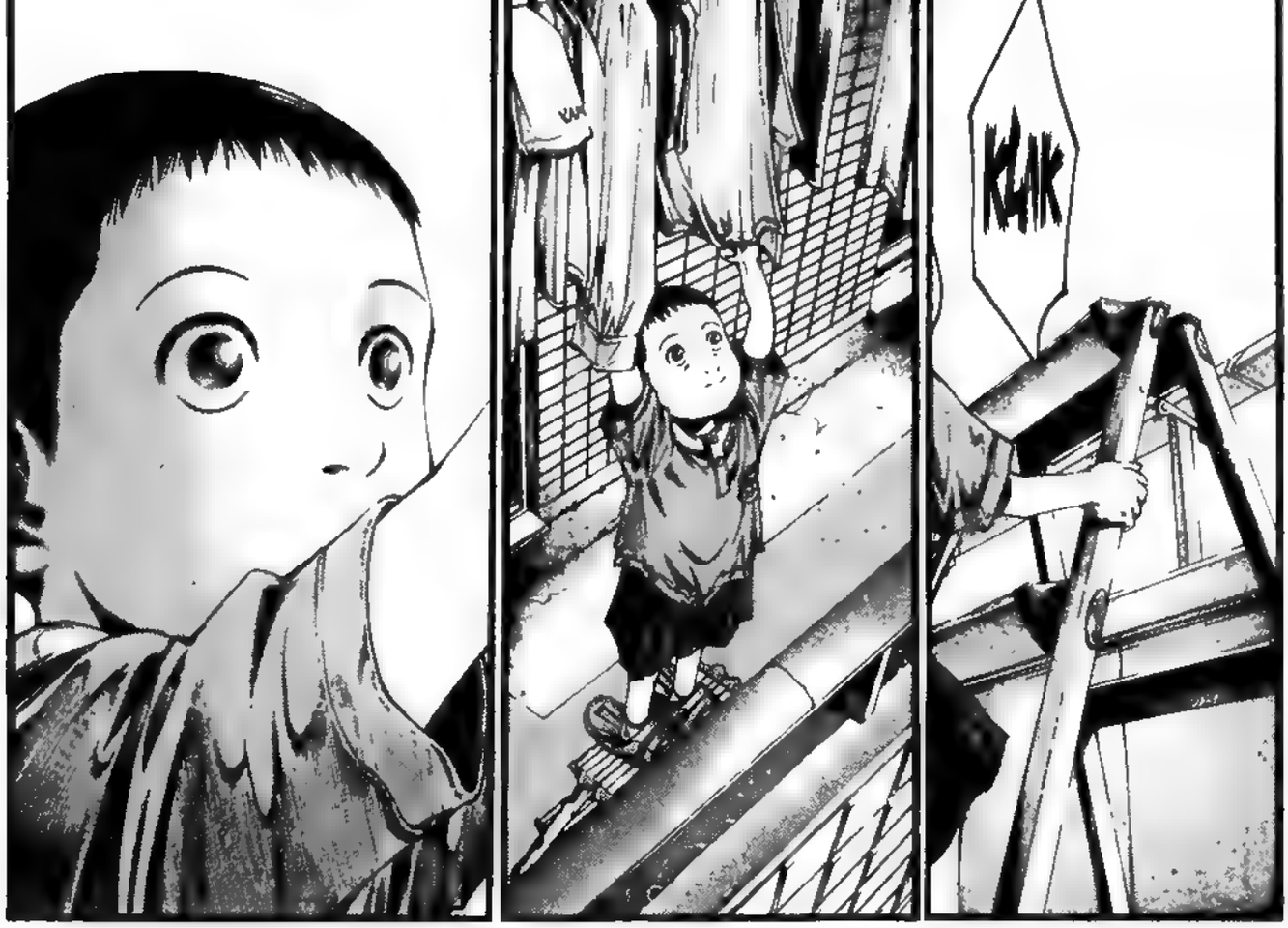
OKAY, I'LL MEET YOU IN HALF AN HOUR.
The Three Little Pigs
YEAH, IT'S SO CONVENIENT TO HAVE A MAN WHO WORKS AT HOME.
NAH, THAT'S OKAY. MY HUBBY WILL TAKE CARE OF MY BOY.

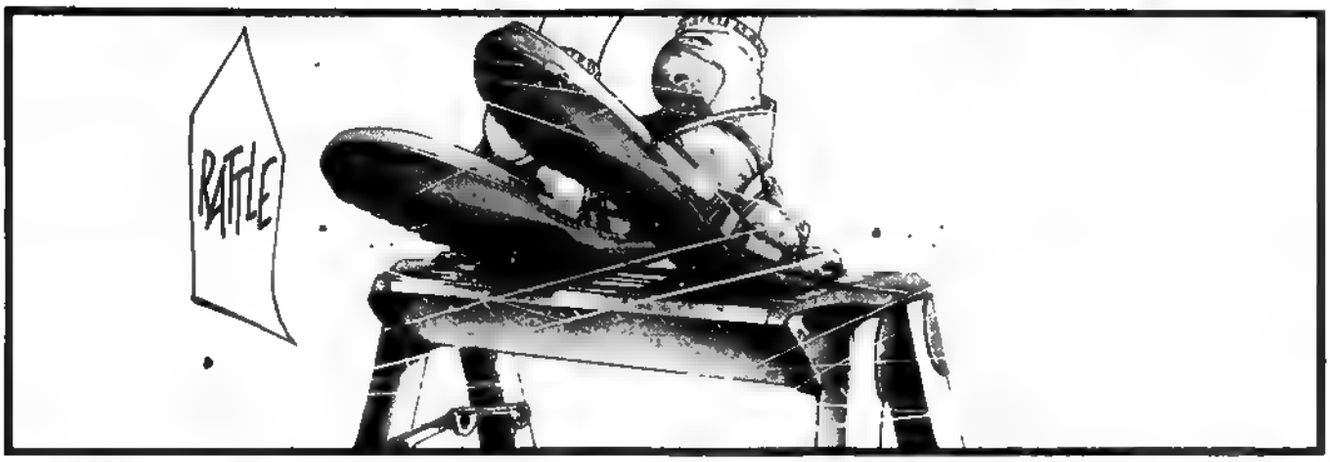
KNOCK
KNOCK
LISTEN, HONEY.
I'M GOING OUT FOR A BIT. COULD YOU LOOK AFTER JUN IN THE MEANTIME?
OH, ALMOST FORGOT!
BADOUM
BANG
BOOM
PLEASE BRING IN THE LAUNDRY AS WELL.
ALL RIGHT, JUN. MOMMY WILL BE GONE FOR A WHILE. YOU BE A GOOD BOY, OKAY?
OKAY!
SEE YOU LATER!

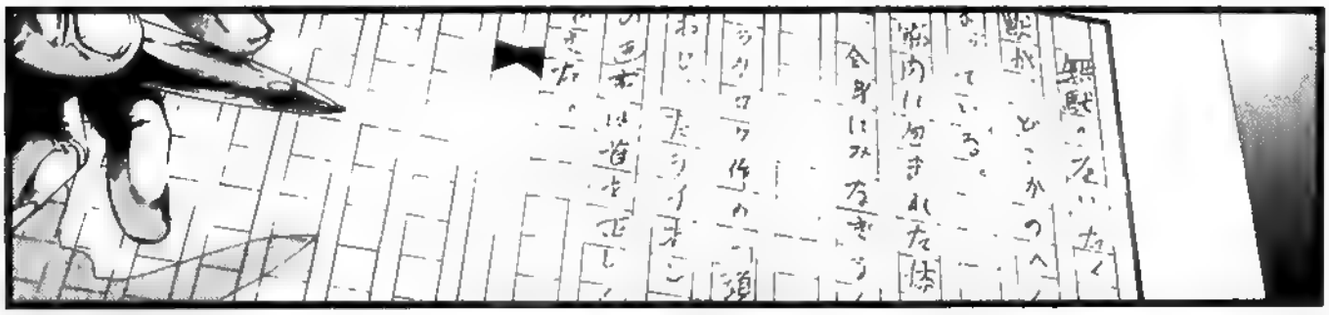



THE LAUNDRY!

KRTCH
KRTCH
KRTCH
KRTCH

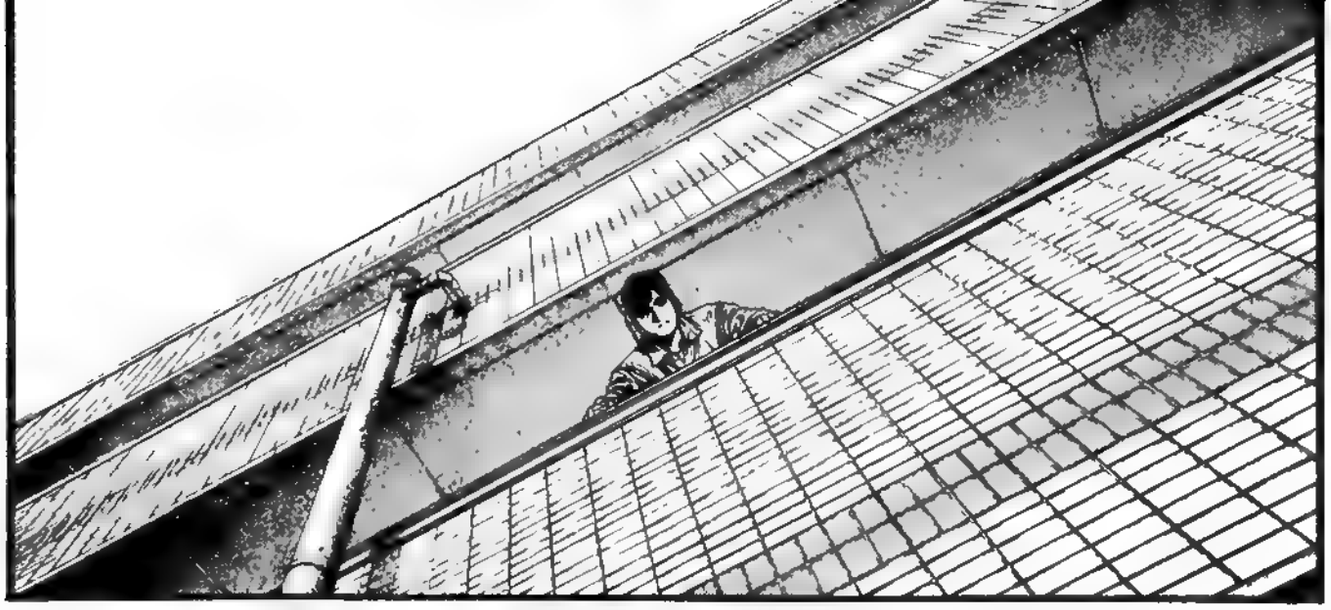

KLAK


RATTLE

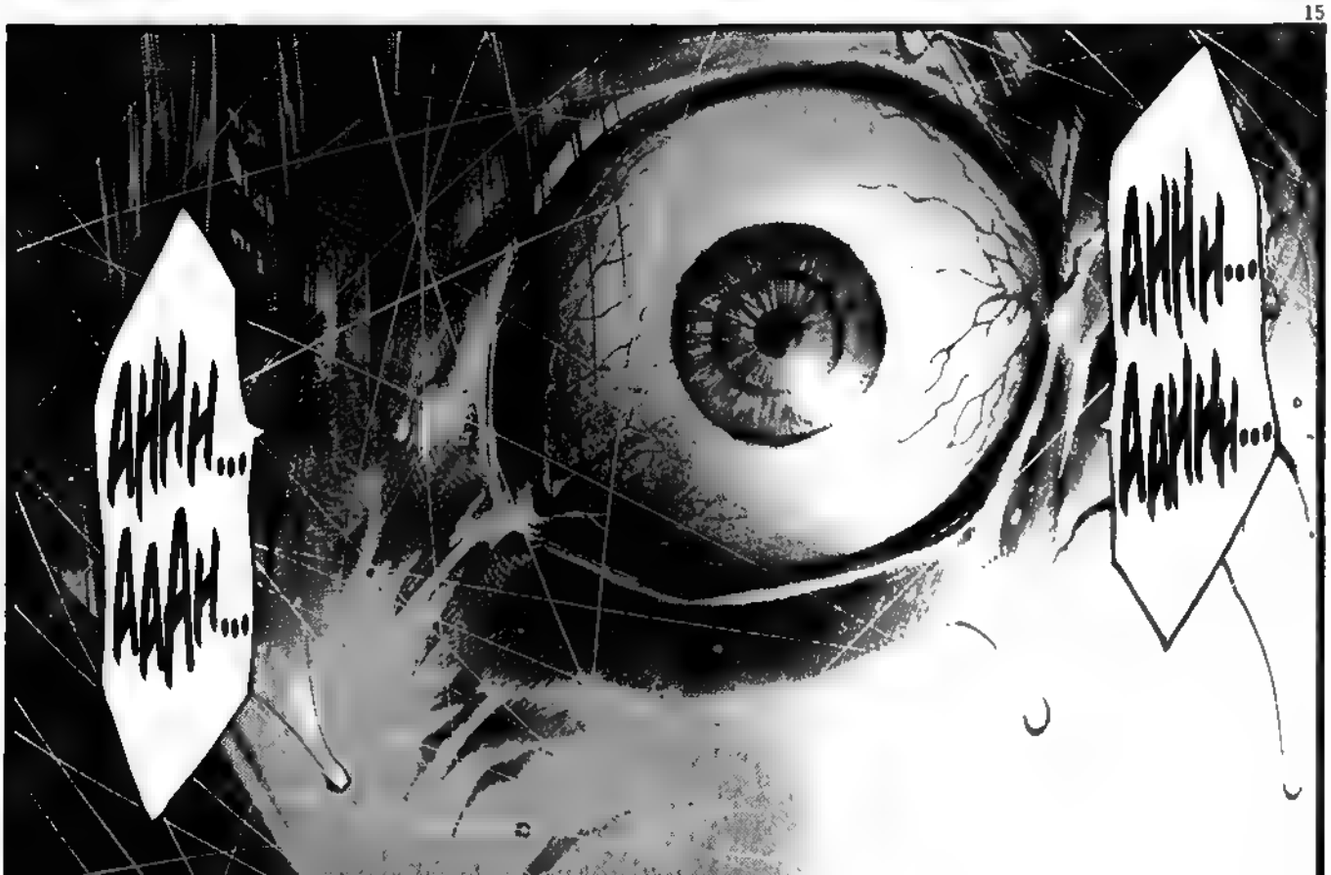


DONE!

I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR GIVING ME THIS JOB.
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO WORK FOR YOU AGAIN... YES, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
HELLO, THIS IS KIRISHIMA CALLING.
I FINISHED THE MANUSCRIPT. I'M GOING TO FAX IT OVER NOW. OH, JUST ANOTHER THING...
BEEP
KCHK
HEEEY, MIKI, JUN! GOOD NEWS! I FINISHED MY WORK.
LET'S CELEBRATE TOGETHER --
JUN ...?



NO...
NO...
NOo...


AHHH...
AAAH...
AHHH...
AAHH...

AAAAAAAAAHHHHHH

I NEVER WANTED MUCH OUT OF LIFE,
EXCEPT ORDINARY EVERYDAY HAPPINESS...

A SMALL AND HAPPY FAMILY...
THAT'S ALL I NEEDED...

ALL I WANTED WAS TO GET MY FAMILY BACK...
TO BE WITH THEM AGAIN ONCE MORE...

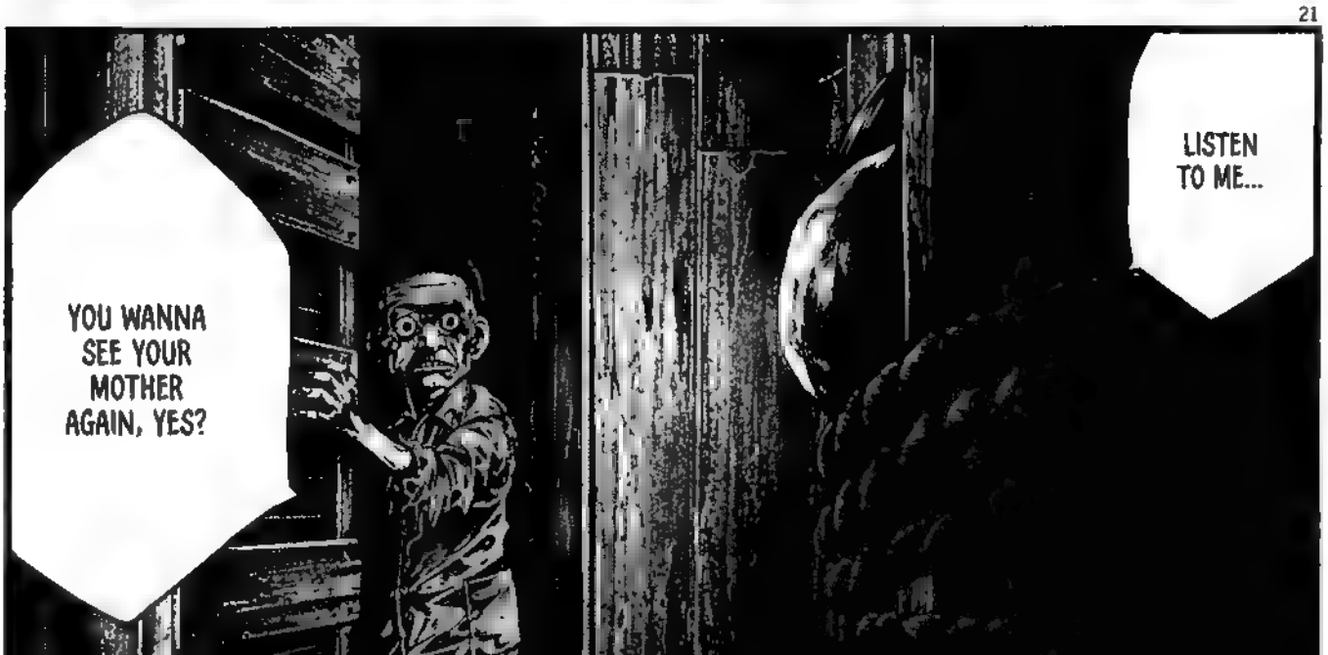
IT WAS MY ONLY WISH...
BUT EVEN THAT SEEMED IMPOSSIBLE...

I REMEMBER YOU...
YOU...

WHAT?
I'M NOT YOUR MOMMY...
YOU... SMELL...
LIKE MOMMY ...
SCRUCH

HOW'S HE DOING?
THE LITTLE BOY...

I SEE ...
SHE WAS HIS MOTHER ...


LISTEN TO ME...
YOU WANNA SEE YOUR MOTHER AGAIN, YES?

IF YOU UNTIE ME--
--I'LL TAKE YOU TO HER.

Chapter.6 I bury it

FLOP
FLOP
FLOP

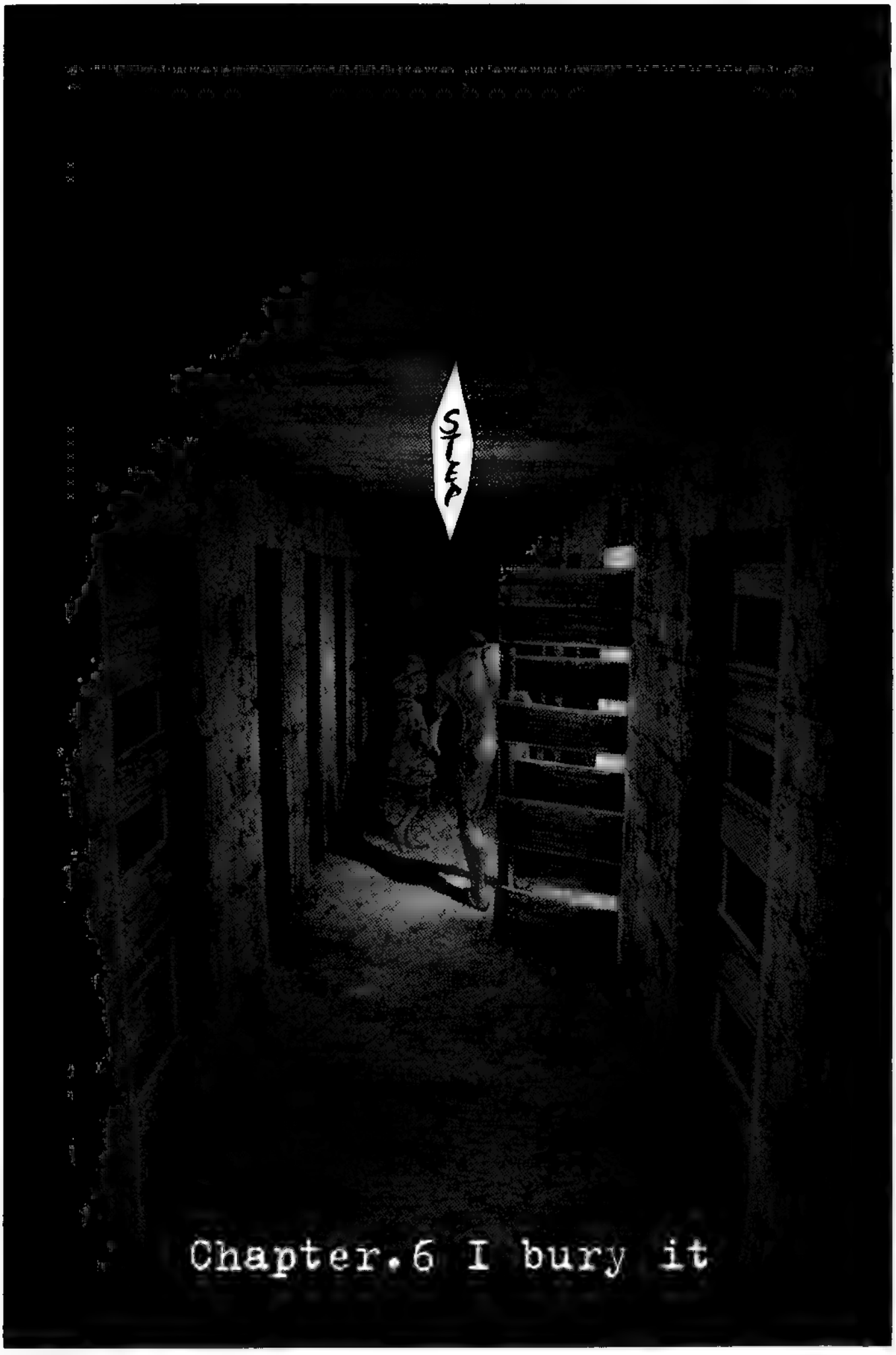
THANKS...
I OWE YOU ONE...

MY... MOMMY...

LET'S GO FIND YOUR MOTHER.
R-RIGHT, OF COURSE...

NOD
D'YOU KNOW WHERE I CAN FIND THEM?
WOBBLE
BUT FIRST I NEED SOME CLOTHES.

GOOD, LEAD THE WAY...


STEP
Chapter.6 I bury it

WHAT DO WE HAVE HERE...?

!
ROSTLE

THESE SHOES AND CLOTHES--
RSTL
--MUST'VE BELONGED TO THOSE WHO STRAYED INTO THIS CAVE...

HOW COME YOU CAN'T BE WITH YOUR MOTHER?
B-BY THE WAY...
Zip

DID *HE* FORBID YOU TO SEE HER? WHAT'D HE TELL YOU?
THE MONSTER-- UM, I MEAN THE MAN WHO IMPRISONED ME-- HE'S YOUR FATHER, ISN'T HE?

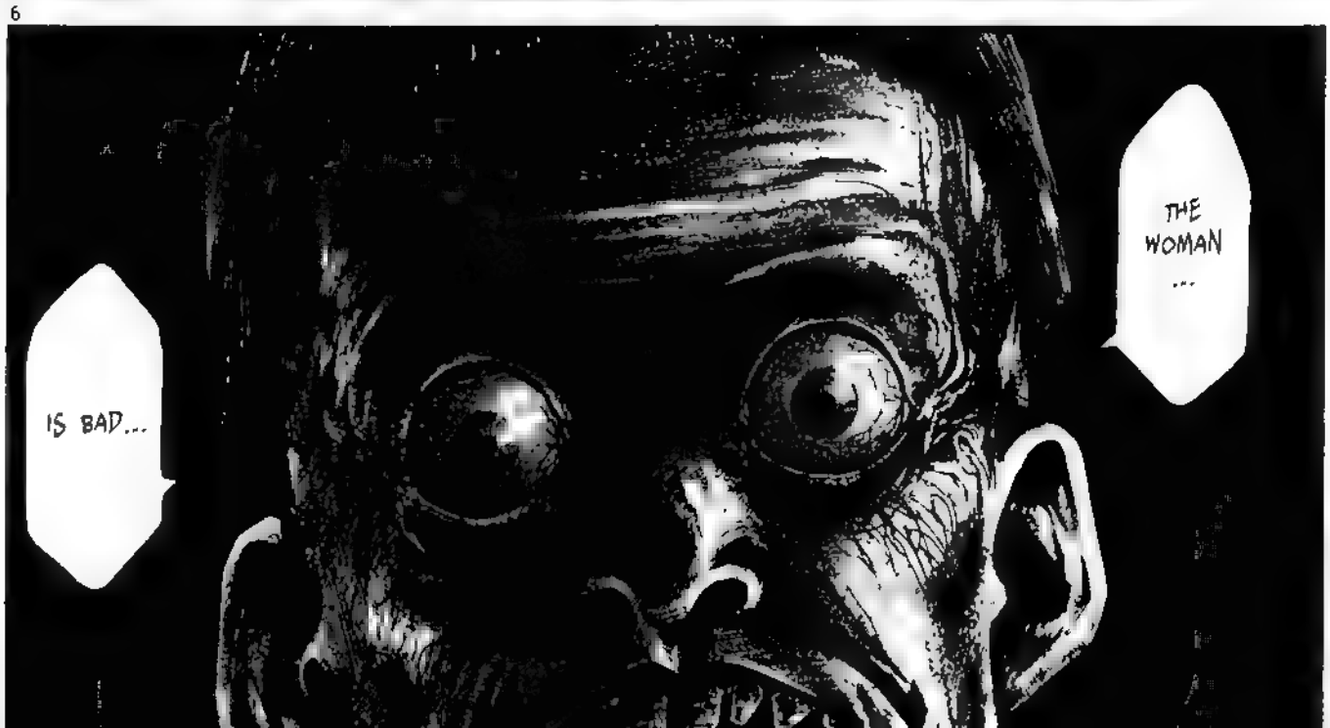
...

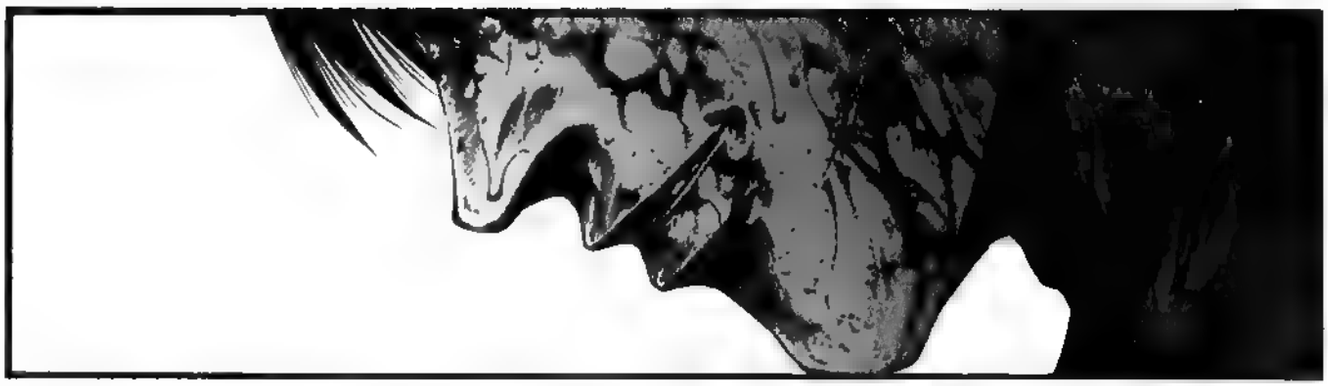
MY... DADDY...
SAID...

THE WOMAN ...
RAN AWAY ...

YOU MEAN FROM *THIS* CAVE?
SHE RAN AWAY?

IT'S DANGER-OUS.. OUTSIDE ..
SHE'LL... RUN AWAY... AGAIN...


IS BAD...
THE WOMAN ...



I BEGAN TO FEEL A SLIVER OF HOPE...

SUDDENLY I RECALLED WHAT MIKI HAD TOLD ME EARLIER...

SHE WANTED TO BURY HER MEMORIES OF THIS PLACE...
THE CAVE, THE MONSTER, EVERYTHING...

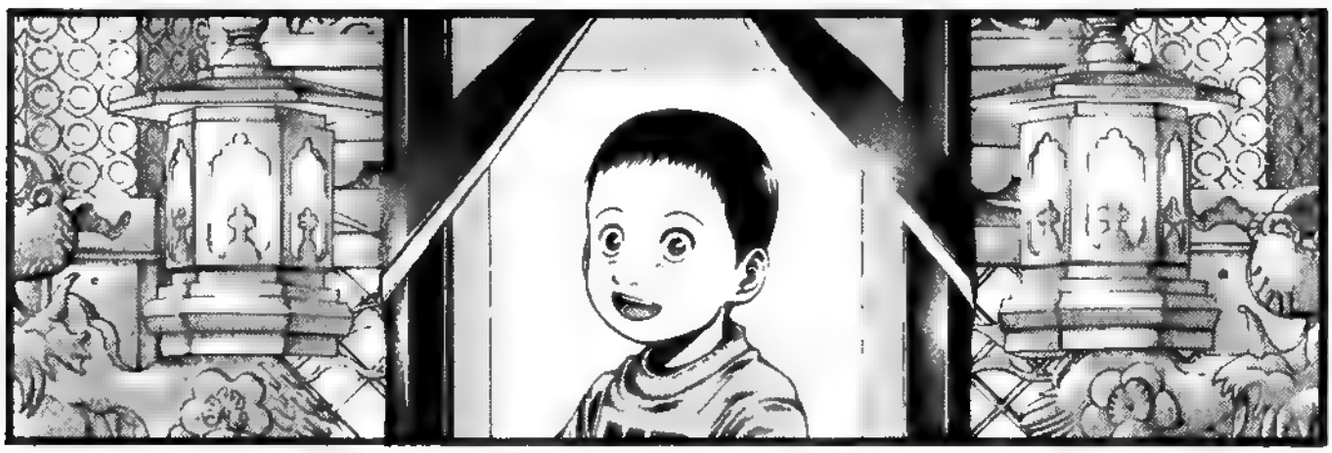
I COULDN'T AGREE MORE...

LET'S BURY EVERYTHING.

Funeral Service
of
Jun Kirishima

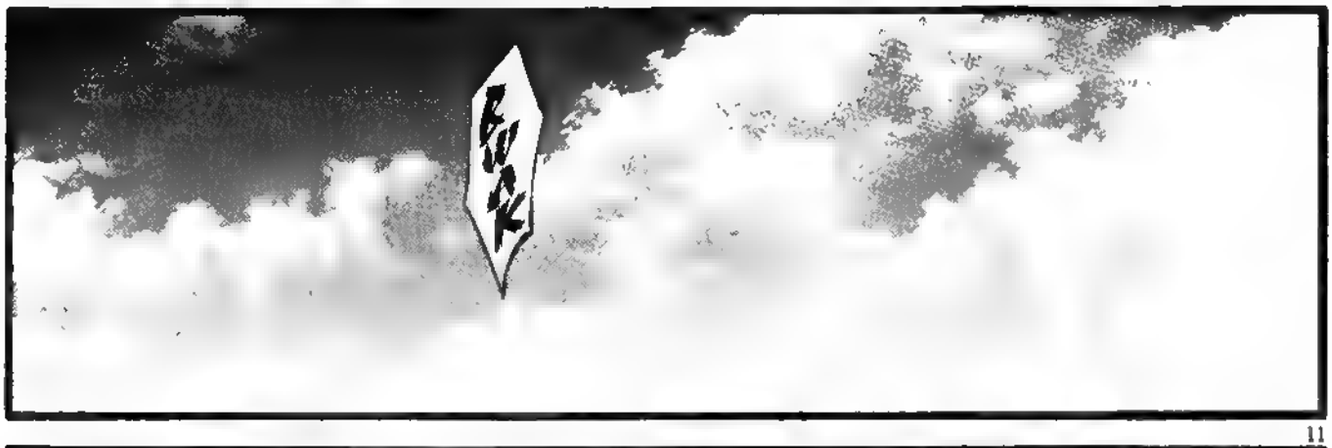
WAKE
October 25
6 p.m.

FUNERAL
October 26
2 p.m.



APPARENTLY HE WAS SO OCCUPIED WITH HIS WORK THAT HE DIDN'T PAY ANY ATTENTION TO HIS SON.
EVEN WORSE, HE LEFT THE BOY ALONE IN THE LIVING ROOM WITH THE BALCONY DOORS WIDE OPEN.
DID YOU ALSO KNOW THAT THE FATHER WAS HOME WHEN IT HAPPENED?
EH? REALLY?
DID YOU HEAR WHAT HAPPENED TO LITTLE JUN?
YES, I WAS TOLD HE FELL FROM THE BALCONY... WHAT A TRAGEDY.

SHH! HE CAN HEAR US.
WHAT? SO IT'S ALL HIS FAULT THEN!


BUZZ

THOMP

HONEY --
QUIET! JUN WOULDN'T HAVE HAD TO DIE IF HE WAS LOOKING AFTER HIM PROPERLY.
YOU DID THIS!

THERE'S NO WAY SOMEONE LIKE HIM, WHO GREW UP WITHOUT A FAMILY, CAN MAKE ANYONE HAPPY.
IT WAS A *MISTAKE* TO LET MY DAUGHTER MARRY HIM IN THE FIRST PLACE.

I-I DIDN'T KNOW... IT WASN'T MY FAULT...
I THOUGHT... MIKI WAS WATCHING JUN...
!

THIS *IS* YOUR FAULT.

MI--

DON'T TRY TO BLAME IT ON OTHERS!
YOU WERE WITH HIM WHEN IT HAPPENED...

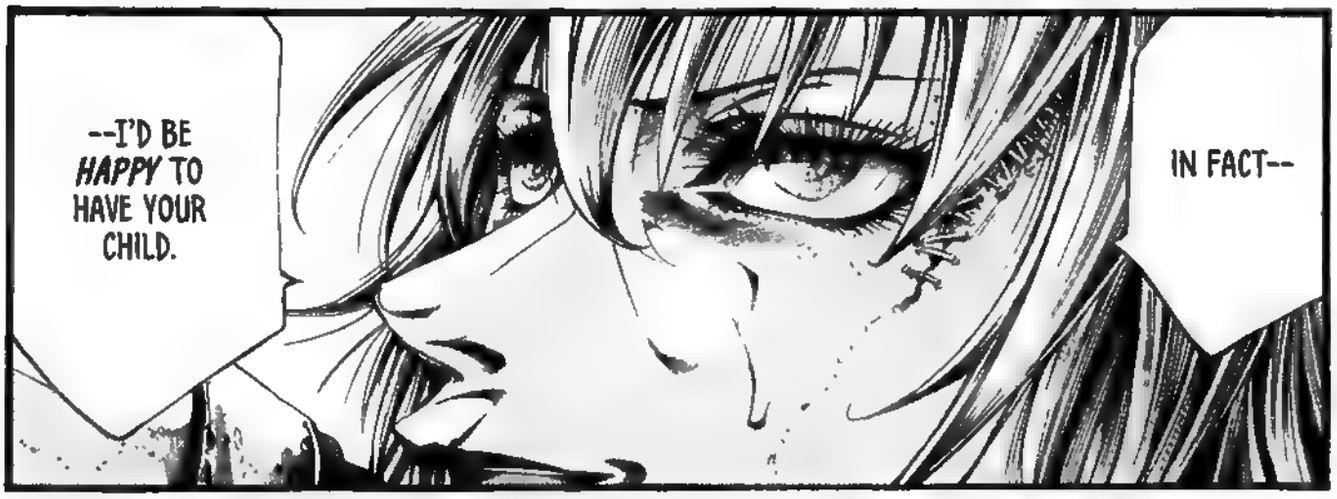
YOU KILLED JUN.

WHAM

I'M NOT GOING--
--TO RUN AWAY.
WHOA, TAKE IT EASY.
THERE'S NO NEED TO RUSH.

I'M NOT LIKE THE OTHER WOMEN.
I'LL *NEVER* BETRAY YOU.

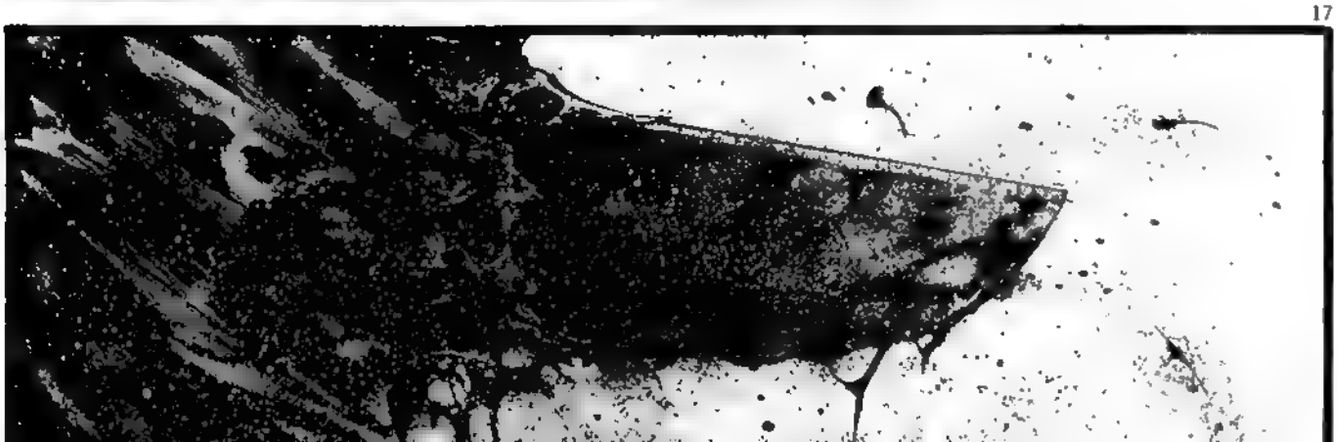
SLIDE


--I'D BE *HAPPY* TO HAVE YOUR CHILD.
IN FACT--

SPURTCH

HUH?!

GAKK

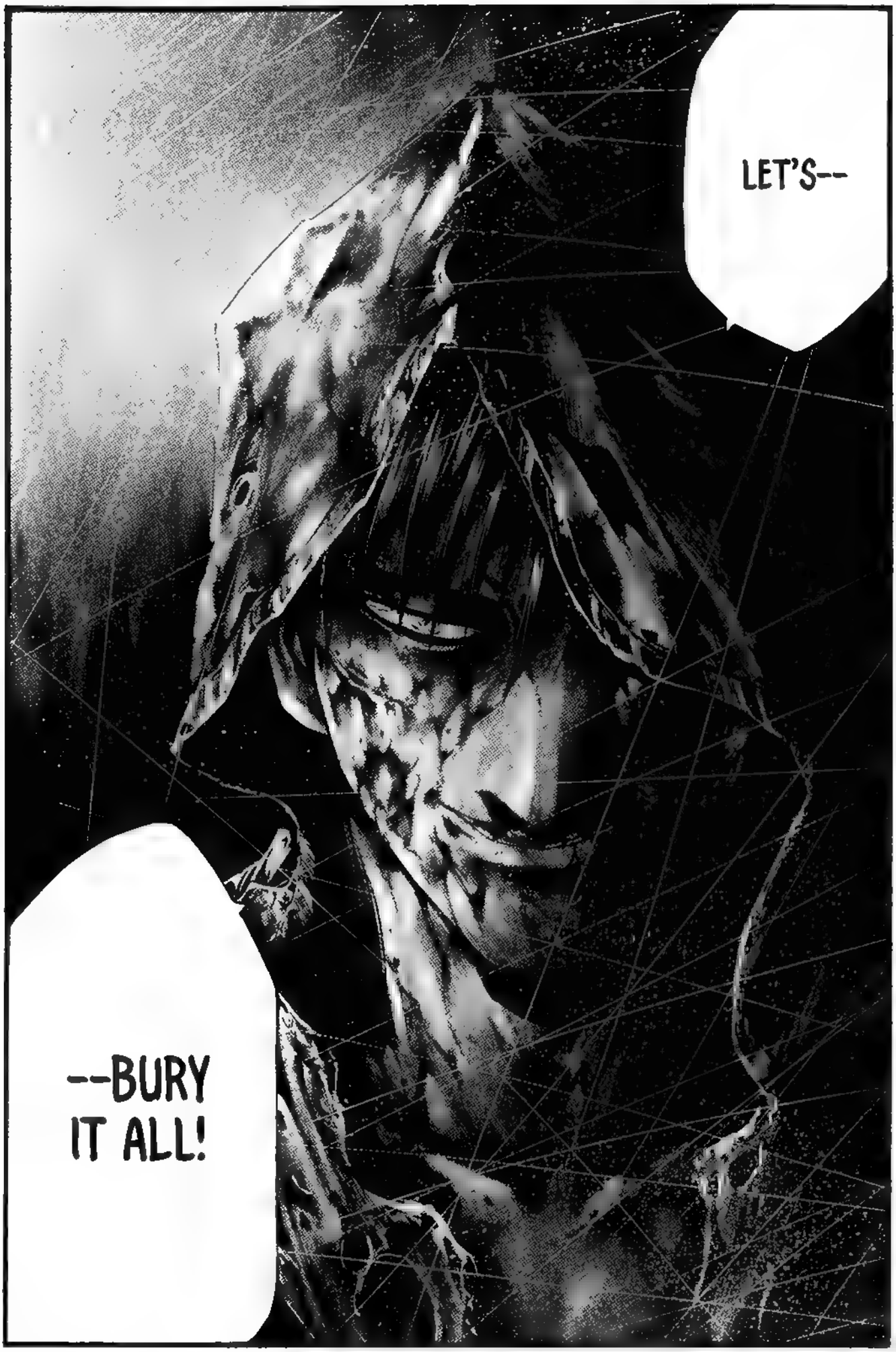


SHOW

SPLURCH
GRIP
CLOP
CLOP

YOU WERE RIGHT...
MIKI...

ABOUT THIS MONSTER... AND ABOUT THAT AWFUL PAST OF OURS...
ABOUT THIS CAVE...


LET'S--
--BURY IT ALL!

UMF
Chapter.7 Dead or alive

HELP...
H-

TIME TO FINISH THIS...
IT'S OVER...

GRK
--MIKI!
GOODBYE--

Chapter.7 Dead or alive

KHWAM
GRRAHHH
FUCK...
HRAHH!
RAHH!
!
DASH
SWK

AHHR ...?
ARRHH ...?
TAKE THIS!
SLASH

MIKI...
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
GRUFF
HEY, MIKI! YOU CAN'T RUN AWAY FROM ME!
SHSH
GET BACK HERE!

THAT BITCH...
...

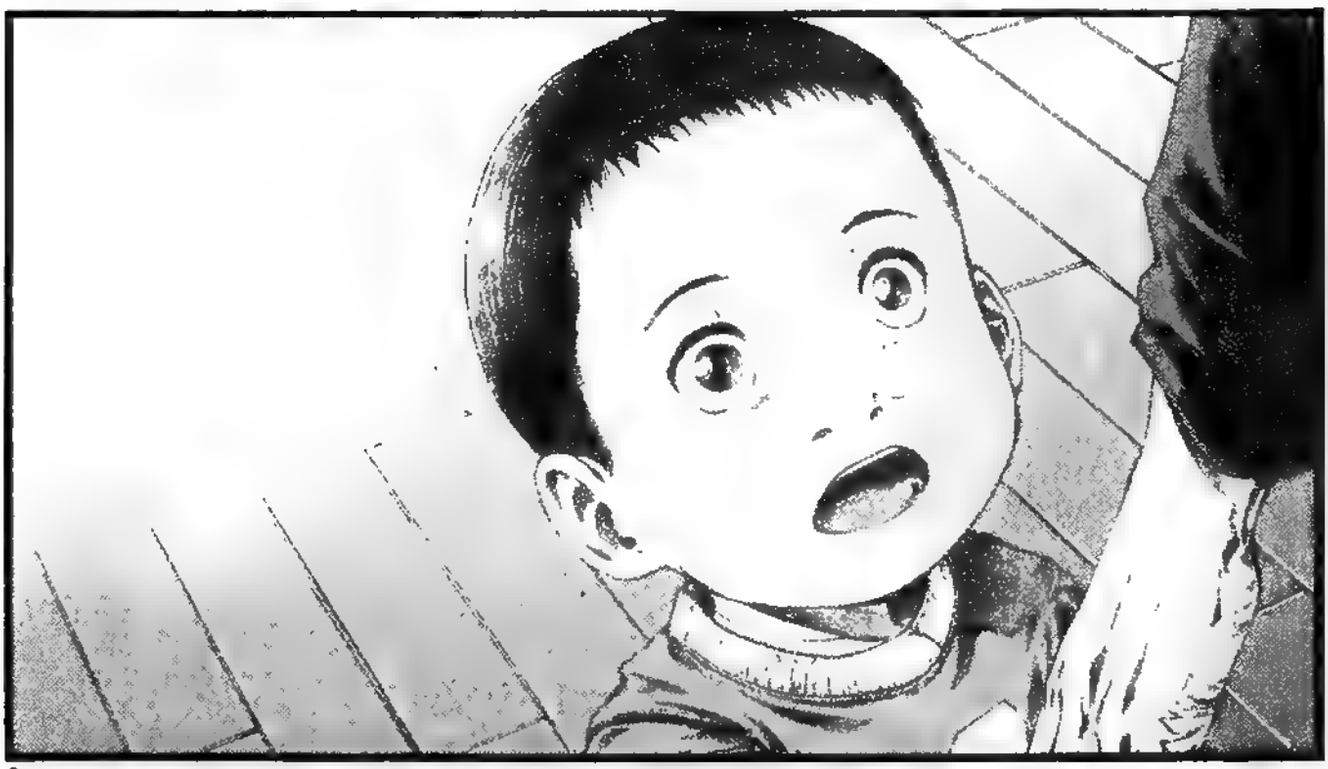
?!

WHAT THE--?!
WHERE THE HELL'D HE GO?!

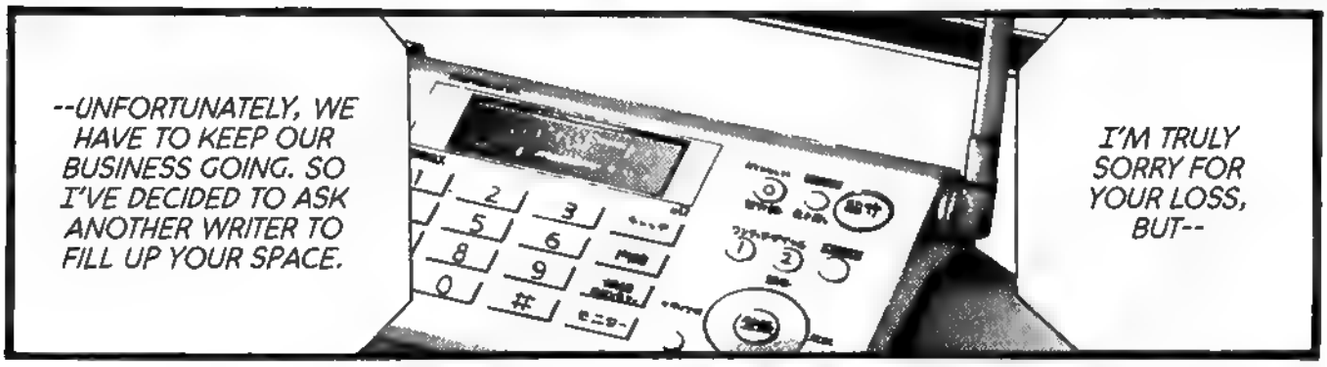
COME OUT NOW! I'MMA KILL YOU ALL!
YOU REALLY THINK YOU CAN GET AWAY FROM ME, HUH?
SHIT!
FUCK YOU ALL!

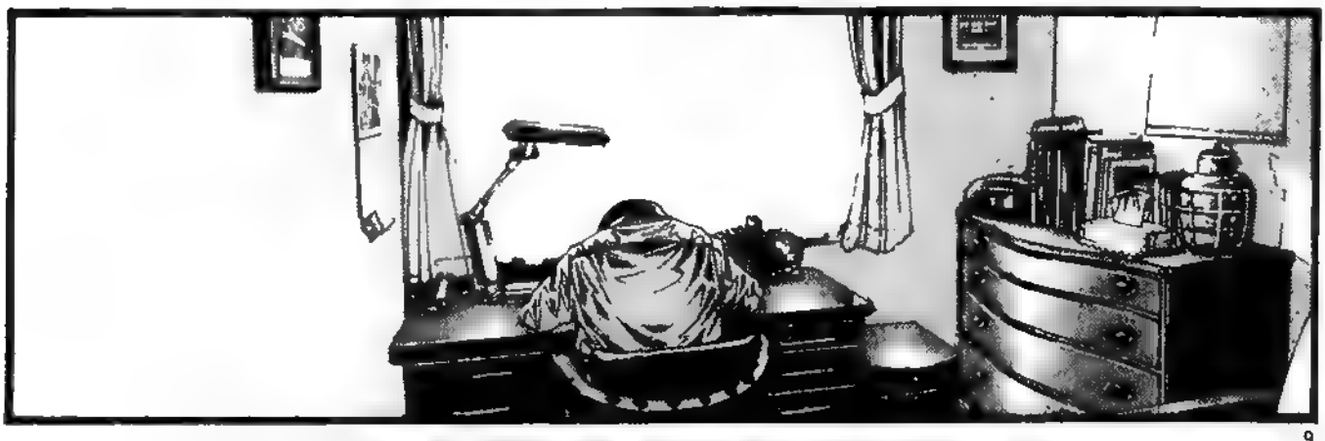
TUG

I...
WANT...
MY...
MOMMY...



UM, HELLO. THIS IS YOKOYAMA FROM SODEGAZAKI PUBLISHING.
I'M CALLING ABOUT YOUR MANUSCRIPT. THE DEADLINE HAS LONG PASSED.


--UNFORTUNATELY, WE HAVE TO KEEP OUR BUSINESS GOING. SO I'VE DECIDED TO ASK ANOTHER WRITER TO FILL UP YOUR SPACE.
I'M TRULY SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS, BUT--



YOU WANT ANOTHER BABY?!
WHAT?

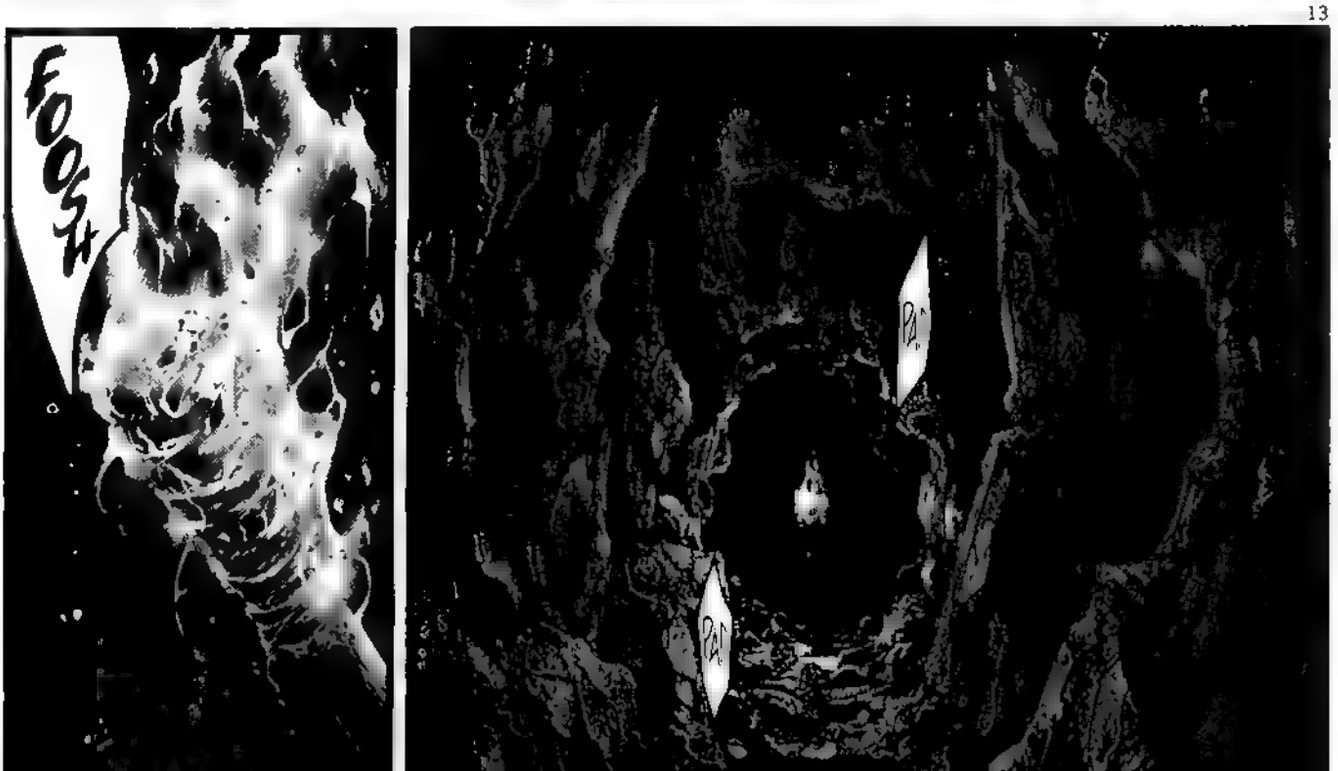
YOU AND I... WE CAN'T ALLOW THE PAST TO BIND US FOREVER.
AT THIS RATE, OUR MARRIAGE WILL FALL APART...

I WANT US TO BE A HAPPY FAMILY AGAIN, LIKE BACK THEN...
SO, LET'S HAVE ANOTHER CHILD...

KTUNK
I WANT... A SECOND CHANCE...

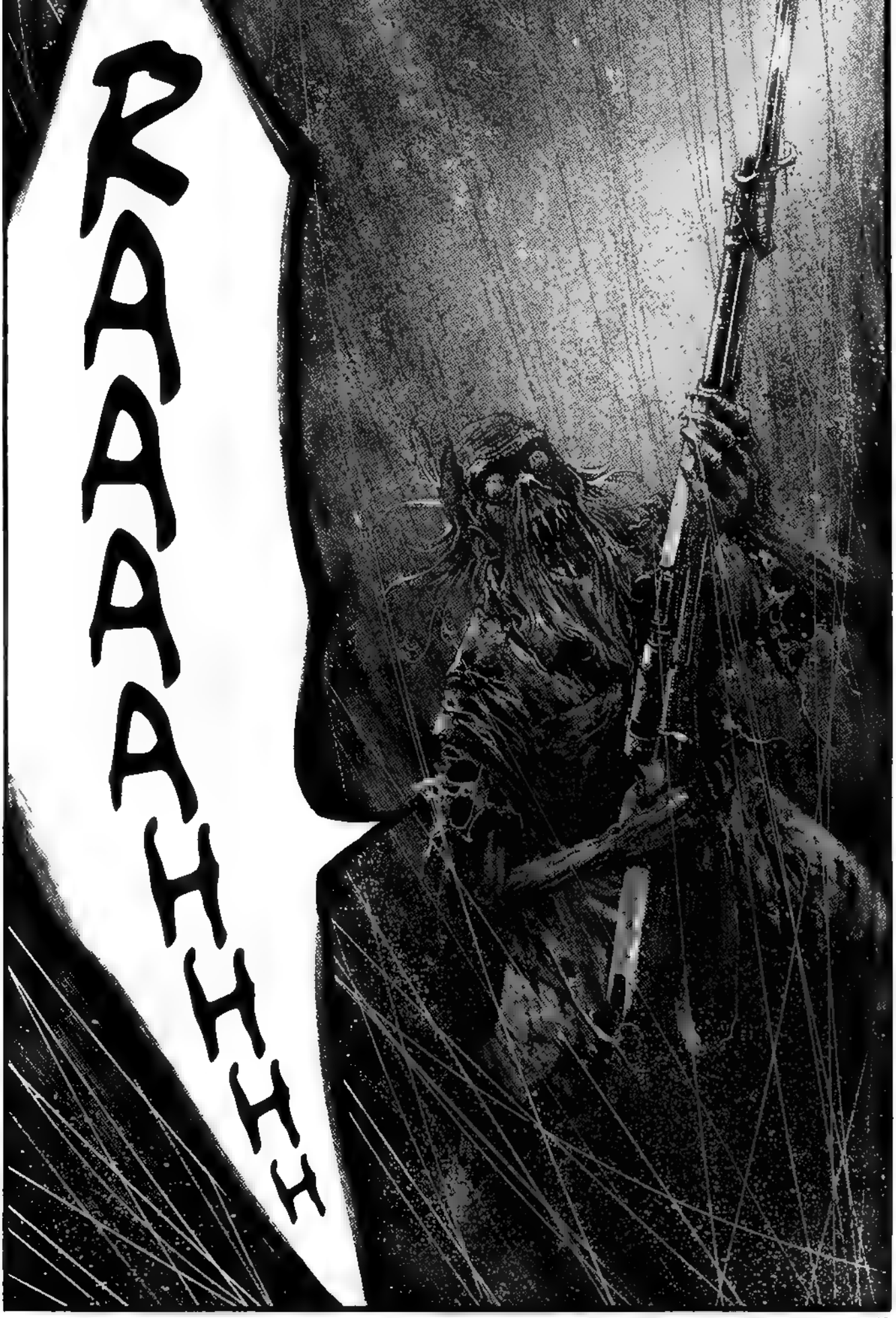
AND WHILE WE'RE AT IT, LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING. I NEVER *WANTED* CHILDREN TO BEGIN WITH.
JUN WAS JUST AN ACCIDENT.
MIKI?
FLIK
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S STILL HUNG UP ON THE PAST. I'VE ALREADY MOVED ON.
--AND GET BACK TO WORK?
SO WHY DON'T YOU QUIT YOUR INCESSANT WHINING--
FOR ME.
YOU BETTER WORK HARD...

THE WOMAN WHO RAN AWAY...



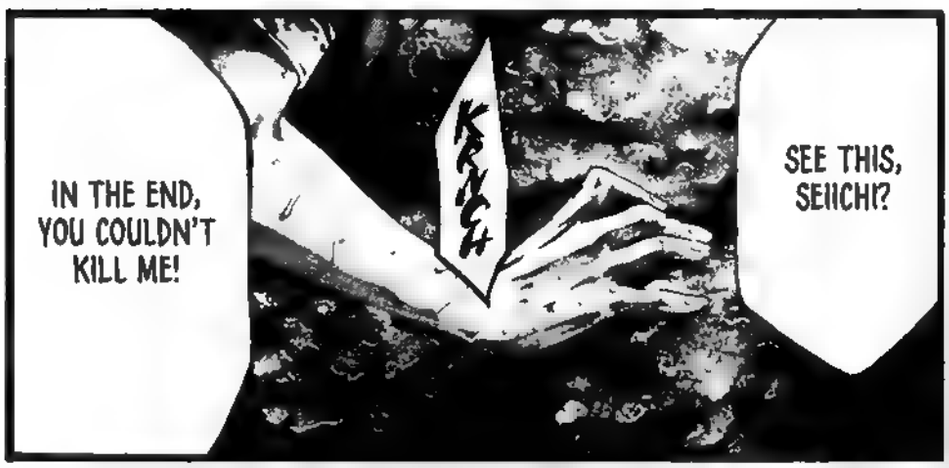
THE MAN LOOKING FOR HER...

AND THE MONSTER CHASING THEM BOTH...



THEY WERE ALL WISHING FOR THIS NIGHTMARE TO END...

THE EXIT!
I CAN SEE IT...

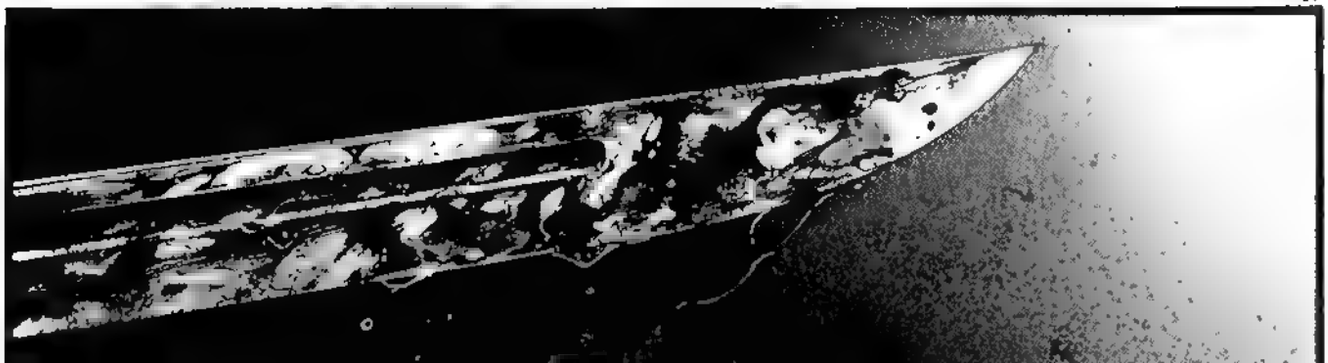

IN THE END, YOU COULDN'T KILL ME!
KRICH
SEE THIS, SEIICHI?

HA... HAHAHA!
I-I'M FREE!

KRICH
KRICH
HAHA... HAHAHA!
YOU AND THAT HIDEOUS MONSTER CAN RIP EACH OTHER'S HEADS OFF FOR ALL I CARE!

SERVES YOU RIGHT!
I'M THE SURVIVOR!

THUK



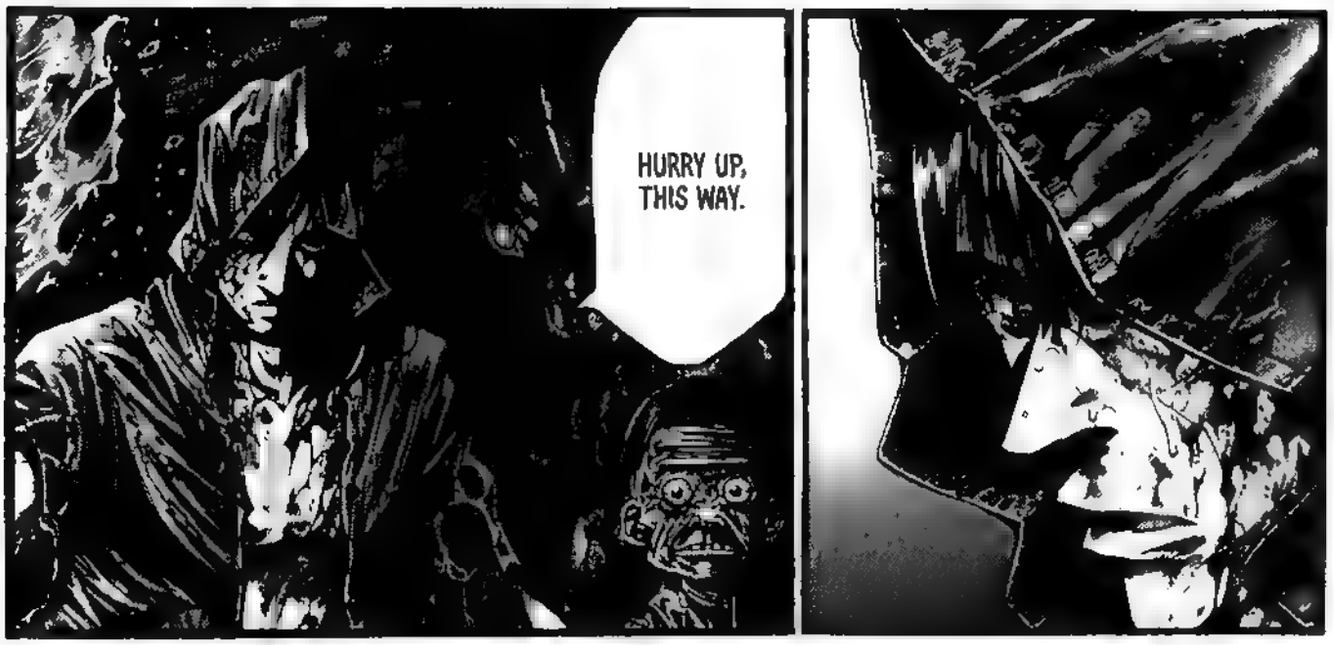
SHOK!

WHOMP

SQUISH
FLUSH
FLUSH

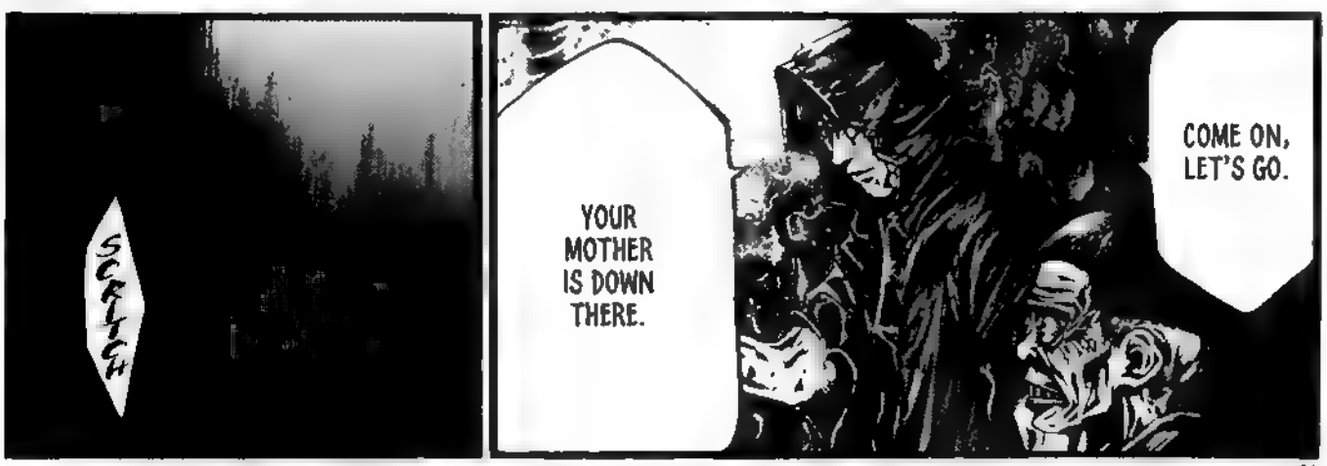
AHHR...
ARRH...
ARR...
ARHH
...

!
ARRRHH

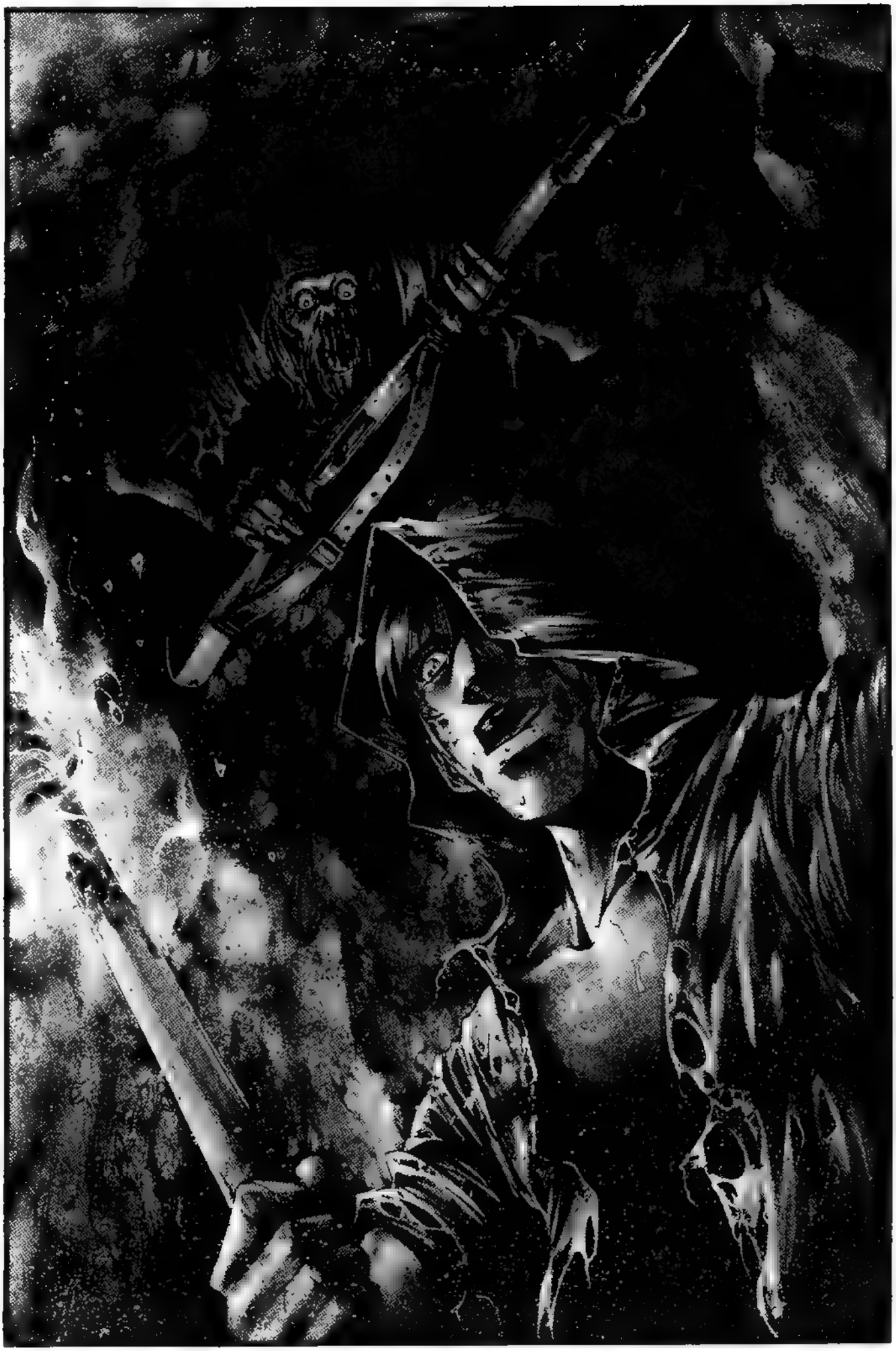

HURRY UP, THIS WAY.

PAO
PAO
PAO

THAT'S THE HATCH I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR...
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
THERE IT IS!


SCRITCH
YOUR MOTHER IS DOWN THERE.
COME ON, LET'S GO.

SCRITCH



Chapter.8 New family

A-
AHH
...
ARHH
...

HUH?

GO ON,
HURRY!
YOUR
MOTHER
IS DOWN
THERE...

Chapter.8 New family

3

SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
URG
GRRR!!!

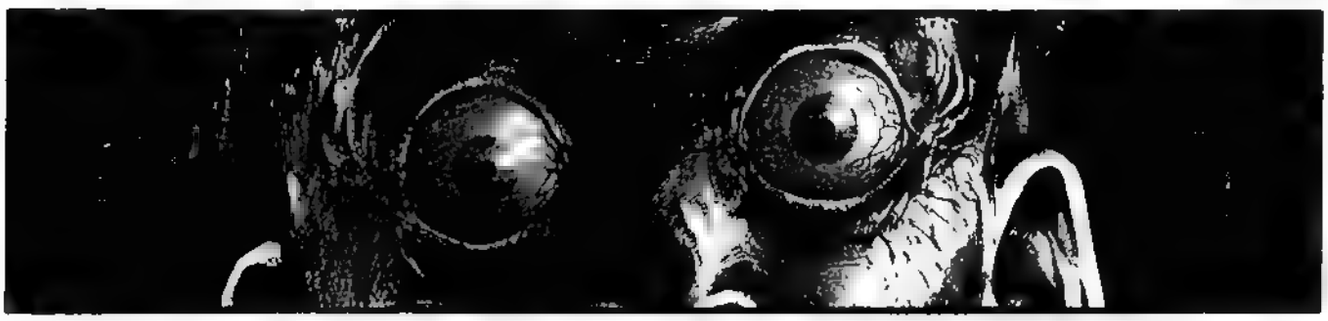
AUUGH ...
AGGH!
ARGH!

GO SEE YOUR MOTHER!
GO! QUICKLY!

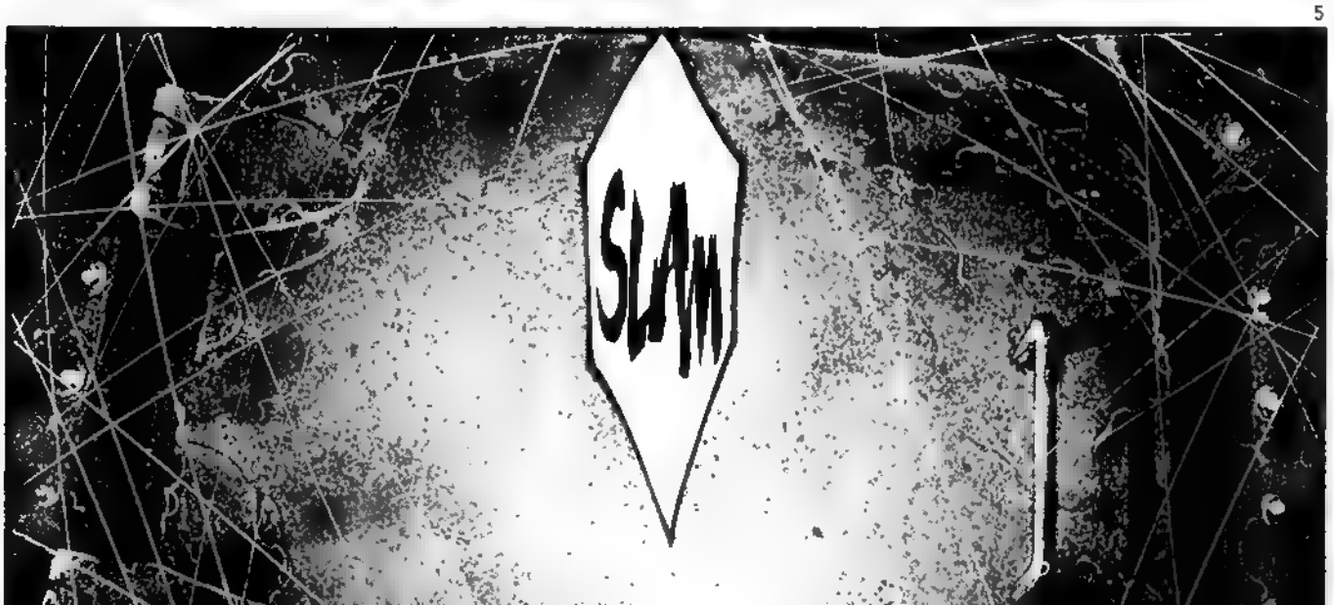
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

M- MOMMY ...

DON'T WORRY, JUN...
DADDY WILL BE RIGHT BEHIND YOU.



--WON'T TAKE LONG.
THIS--


SLAM

STEP

--YOU FILTHY MONSTER!
STAND UP--

6

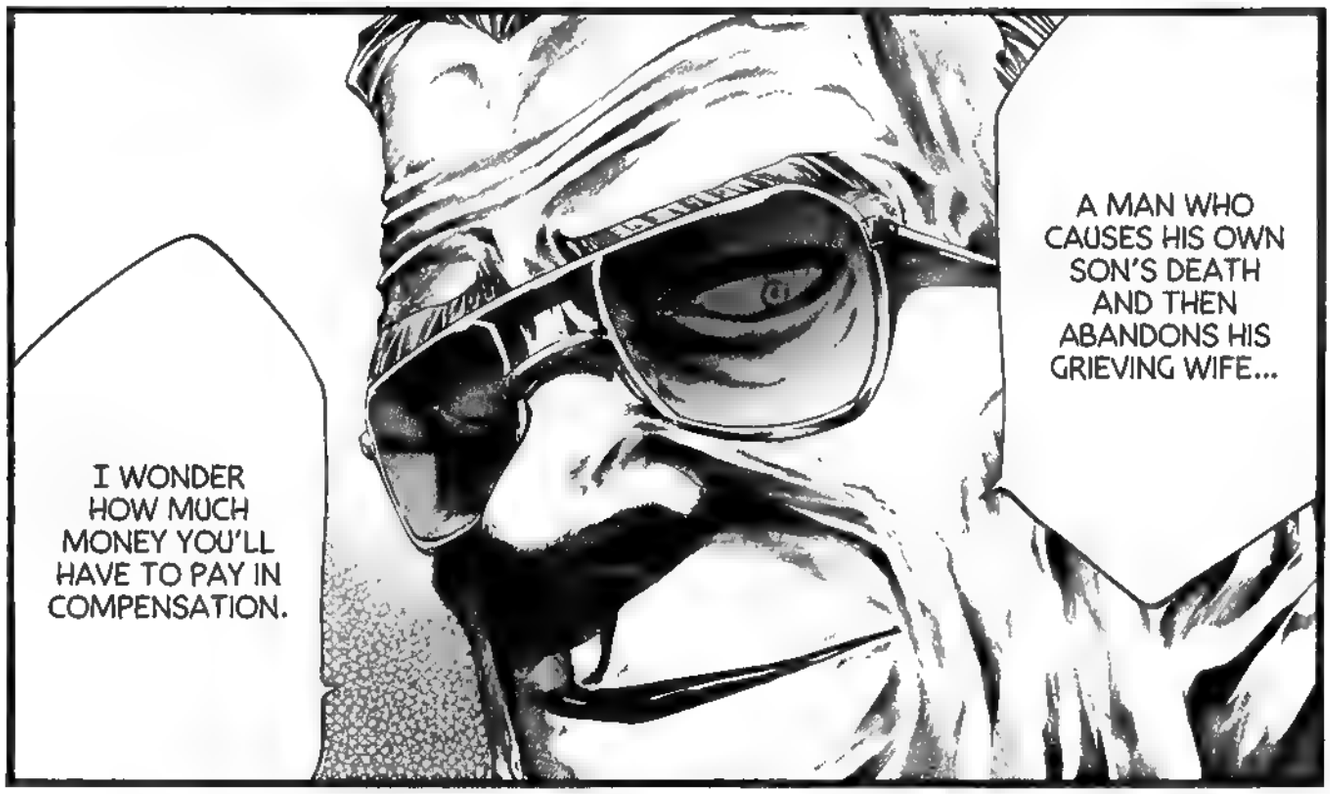
I WON'T CRY FOR HELP--
--NOR WILL I BEG YOU TO LET ME GO...
I'M NOT LIKE THOSE POOR BASTARDS YOU'VE BEEN FEEDING ON TILL NOW.

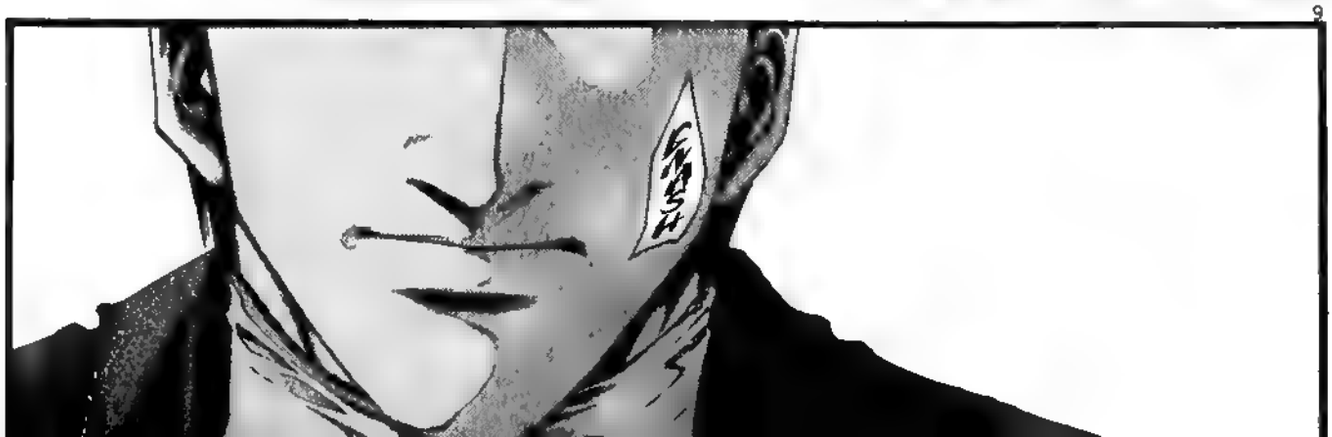
I WANTED TO BURY THE PAST AND START ANEW...

YOU WANT TO FILE FOR *DIVORCE*?

AND HERE I THOUGHT --
--YOU COULDN'T SINK ANY LOWER.
I WAS HOPING YOU AS HER FATHER COULD CONVINCE HER...
UNBE-LIEV-ABLE...
...I DISCUSSED THE MATTER WITH MIKI, BUT SHE WOULD HAVE NONE OF IT.
I DON'T THINK... I CAN TAKE THIS ANYMORE.

WELL, MAYBE IT'S ALL FOR THE BEST. I'M SICK OF HAVING SOMEONE LIKE YOU AS OUR SON-IN-LAW ANYWAY.
HEY, CALL OUR LAWYER, WILL YA?
YOU LET JUN DIE--
--AND NOW YOU WANT TO LEAVE MY DAUGHTER?!
D-DID YOU SAY LAWYER ?
YES, INDEED. LET'S HEAR FROM AN EXPERT.


A MAN WHO CAUSES HIS OWN SON'S DEATH AND THEN ABANDONS HIS GRIEVING WIFE...
I WONDER HOW MUCH MONEY YOU'LL HAVE TO PAY IN COMPENSATION.


FINISH

I WORKED HARD TO PROVIDE FOR MY FAMILY,
SO THEY DIDN'T HAVE TO WANT FOR ANYTHING...

IT'S ALL MY FAULT, YOU SAID?!
DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH!
I DID NOTHING WRONG!

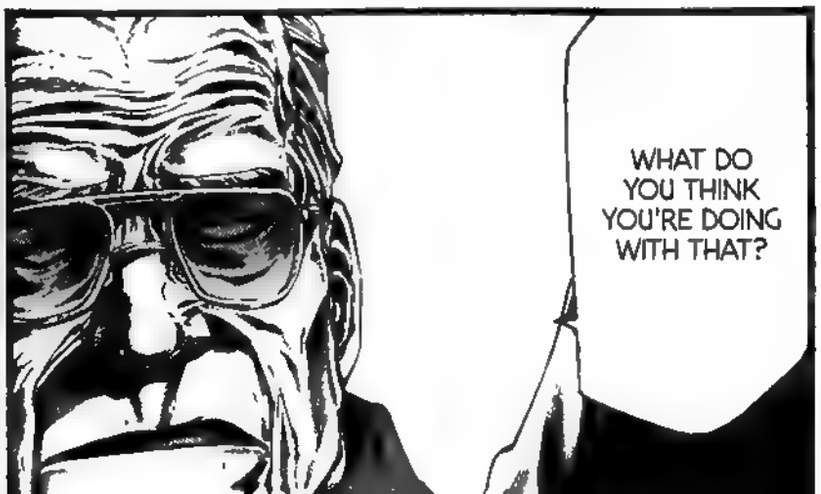
...HUH, WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR IDEA OF GETTING A DIVORCE?
DID YOU GET COLD FEET? COWARD!

I'VE DECIDED TO GO ON A TRIP--
--WITH MIKI TOMORROW.

WELL ...
THAT *WAS* MY INTEN-TION...

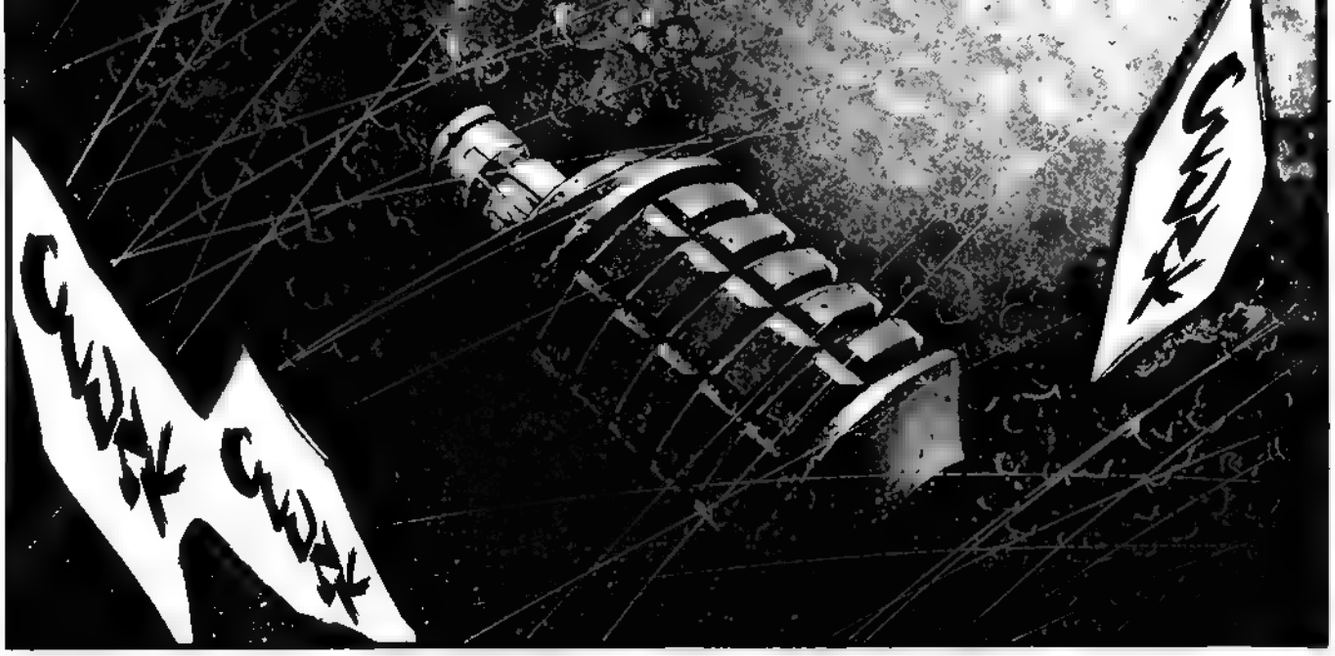
AND I *REALLY* WISH--
--YOU HAD SAID YES.

CLENCH


WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING WITH THAT?

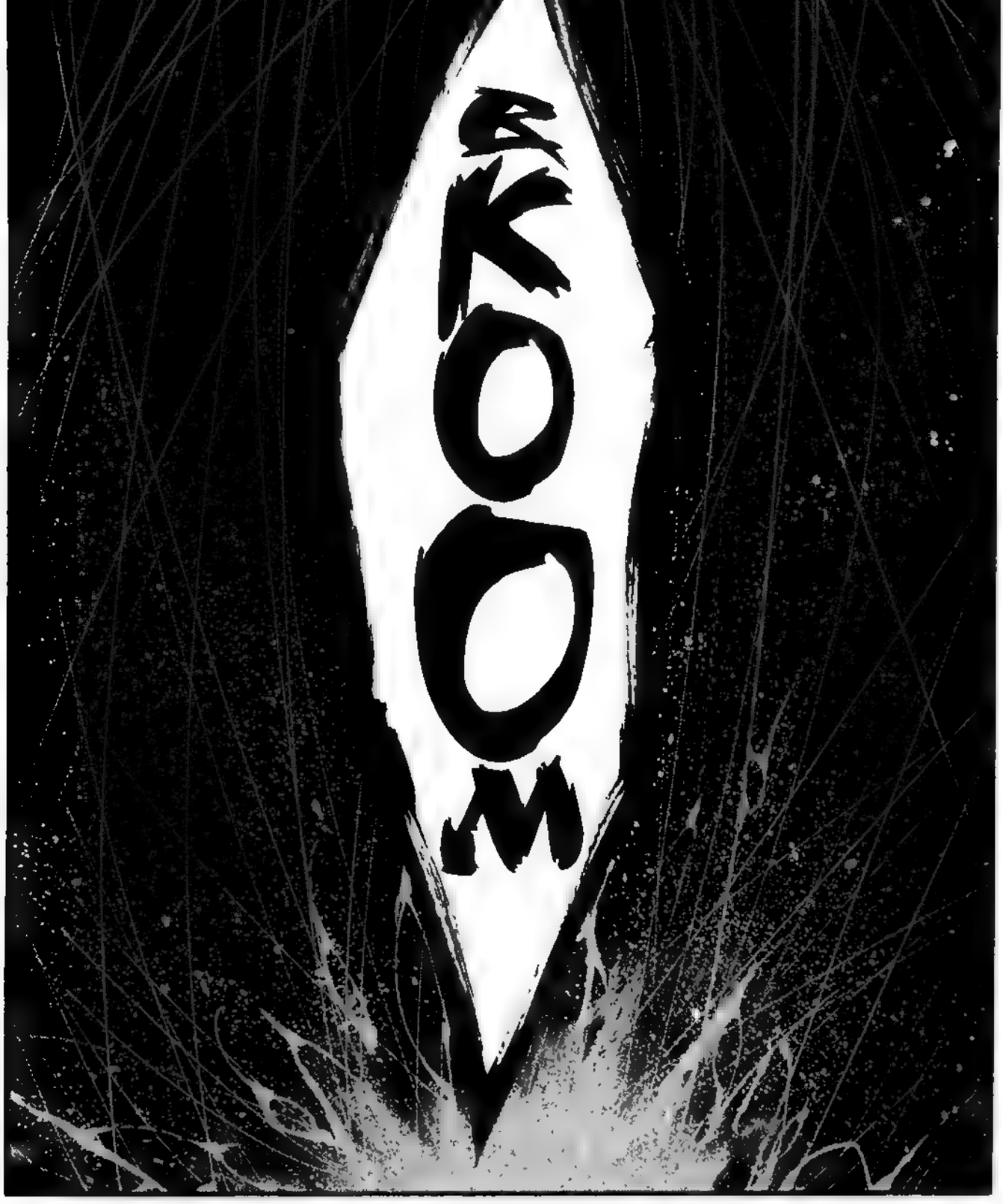
WHAT A SHAME.

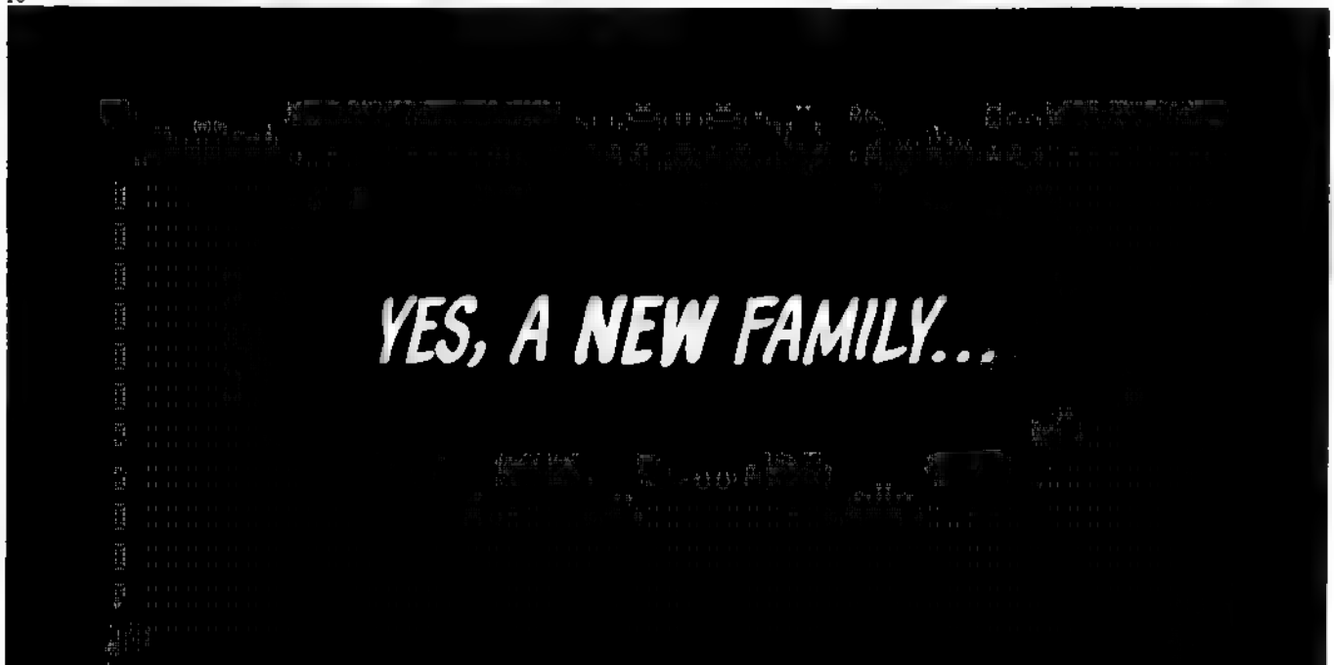
WHY COULDN'T THEY JUST LEAVE ME ALONE?!

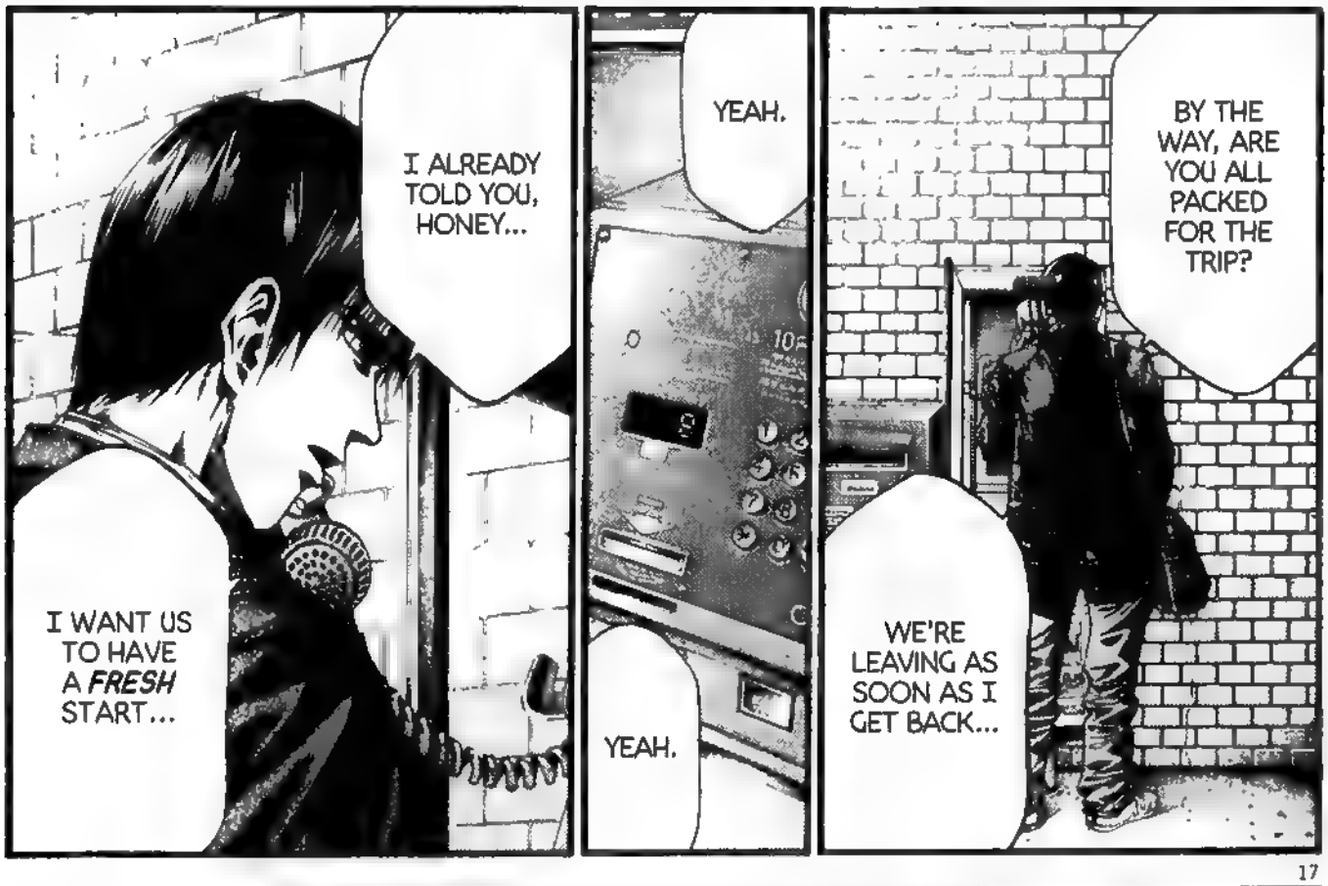


ENOUGH WAS ENOUGH! TO HELL WITH THEM ALL!

I JUST WANTED TO START A NEW FAMILY...


BOOM

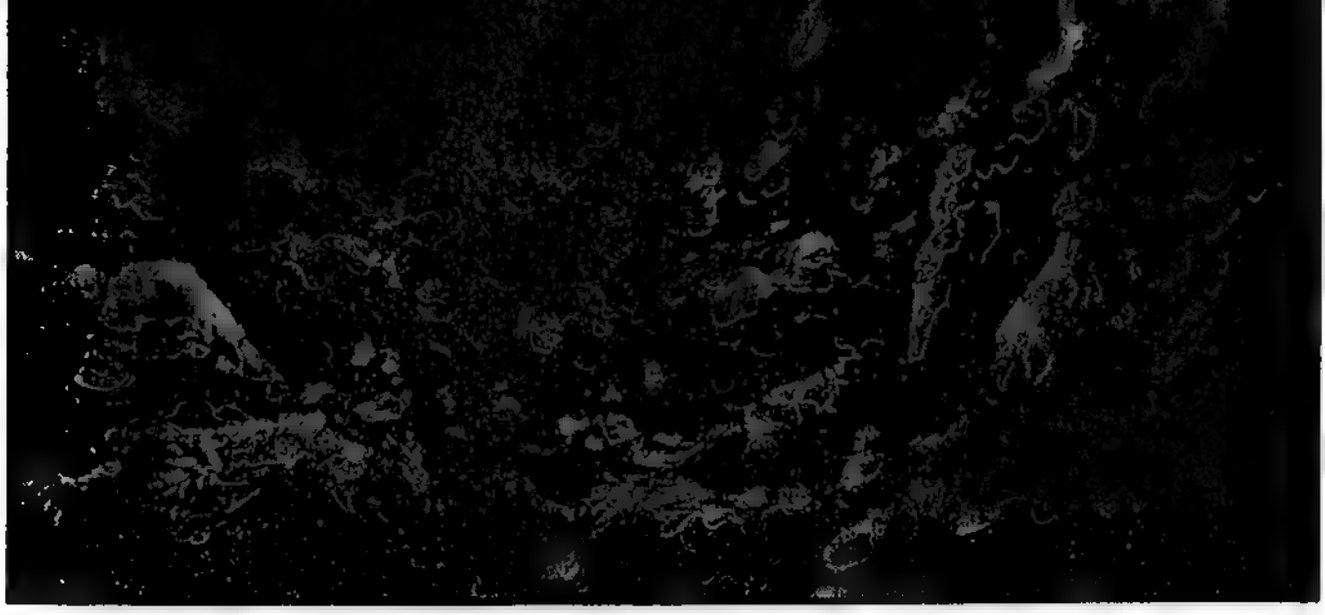

YES, A NEW FAMILY...


I ALREADY TOLD YOU, HONEY...
I WANT US TO HAVE A *FRESH* START...
YEAH.
YEAH.
BY THE WAY, ARE YOU ALL PACKED FOR THE TRIP?
WE'RE LEAVING AS SOON AS I GET BACK...

UH-HUH.

DON'T WORRY.

I GUARANTEE THAT YOU'LL *ENJOY* THIS TRIP.



20

NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT.
MAYBE THAT MONSTER DIDN'T MEAN TO HARM ANYONE...

HE MUST HAVE SPENT DECADES ALONE IN THIS CAVE...

HE JUST WANTED TO RAISE A FAMILY HERE...
NOTHING MORE...

Last Chapter. Death spiral

HEY...
SORRY I'M LATE.

YOUR DADDY--
--GOT RID OF THAT MONSTER.

PAT

IT'S OKAY...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SCARED ANYMORE.

SING
I-IT'S YOU... FROM THE OTHER DAY...
YEAH, SORRY YOU HAD TO WAIT. LET ME FREE YOU FROM THAT CHAIN...
SHRK
SHRK
W-WOW, INCREDIBLE ...
DID YOU *REALLY* KILL THAT GUY?
SHRK
SHRK
I'LL DO ANYTHING FOR MY DEAR *WIFE* AND *SON*.
OF COURSE!
Y-YES...
ARE YOU *HAPPY* NOW?
HOW IS IT, THOUGH, TO SEE YOUR SON AGAIN AFTER SUCH A LONG TIME?

WELL, OF COURSE YOU ARE!
AFTER ALL, MOTHER AND CHILD BELONG TOGETHER! HAHAHA!
SHRK

...

WE CAN FINALLY GET OUT OF HERE!
I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE IT...

CLNG

GET... OUT?

NOW I KNOW EXACTLY HOW THAT MONSTER FELT.

EVERYTHING I HAD BEEN LOOKING FOR WAS HERE...

I'M HERE.

YOU'RE HERE.

--OUR PRECIOUS *SON* IS HERE.
AND MOST IMPORTANTLY --

--DO YOU *NEED?*
WHAT ELSE--

AS LONG AS YOU HAVE YOUR FAMILY, NOTHING ELSE MATTERS.

HERE IS WHERE THE STORY ENDS.

THE YEAR...IS 1989...

AND THIS...IS MY STORY...

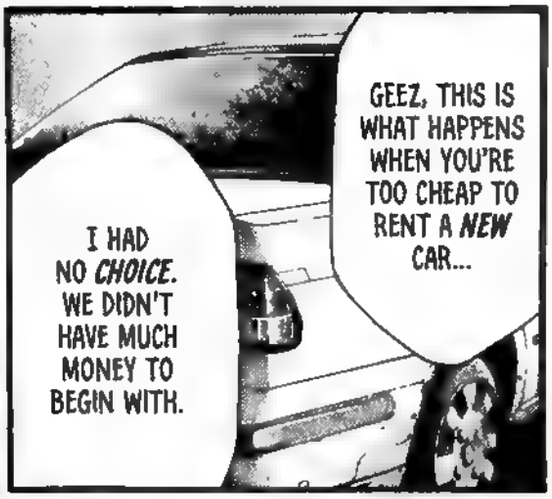
NOVEMBER 30, 2010

BRRMMM
BRRMMM

DAMN IT! NO LUCK. THE BATTERY IS DEAD.
WELL? CAN YOU *FIX* IT?
BRRMM
BRR

BRRMMM

SO WHAT'RE WE GONNA DO? IT'LL BE DARK SOON.
TSK, CAN'T USE MY PHONE HERE EITHER...


I HAD NO *CHOICE*. WE DIDN'T HAVE MUCH MONEY TO BEGIN WITH.
GEEZ, THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU'RE TOO CHEAP TO RENT A *NEW* CAR...

EHHH?!
OH WELL, GUESS WE HAVE TO CONTINUE ON FOOT AND THEN CALL FOR HELP.

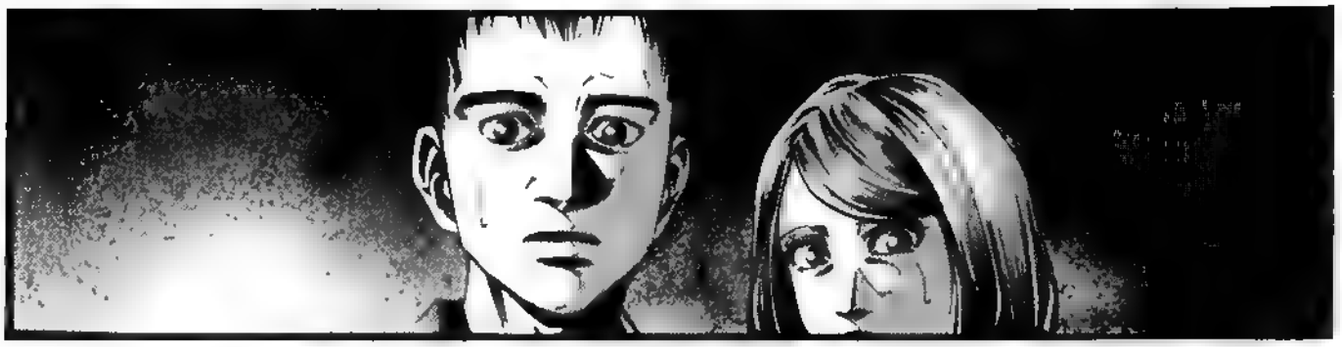
PAD
PAD

STOP IT... YOU'RE *SCARING* ME!
HAHAHA, SORRY! I'M SURE THE LOCALS ARE JUST MAKING THESE THINGS UP.

APPAR-ENTLY--
--IT'S MOSTLY *TOURISTS* LIKE US WHO HAVE GONE MISSING.

HEY, DID YOU KNOW THERE'VE BEEN PEOPLE WHO DISAPPEARED WHILE VISITING THIS PART OF THE MOUNTAIN? AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT I HEARD.
WHAT D'YOU MEAN, *DISAP-PEARED?*
PAD
PAD

LET'S HURRY UP.
ANYWAY, IT'S GETTING DARK.

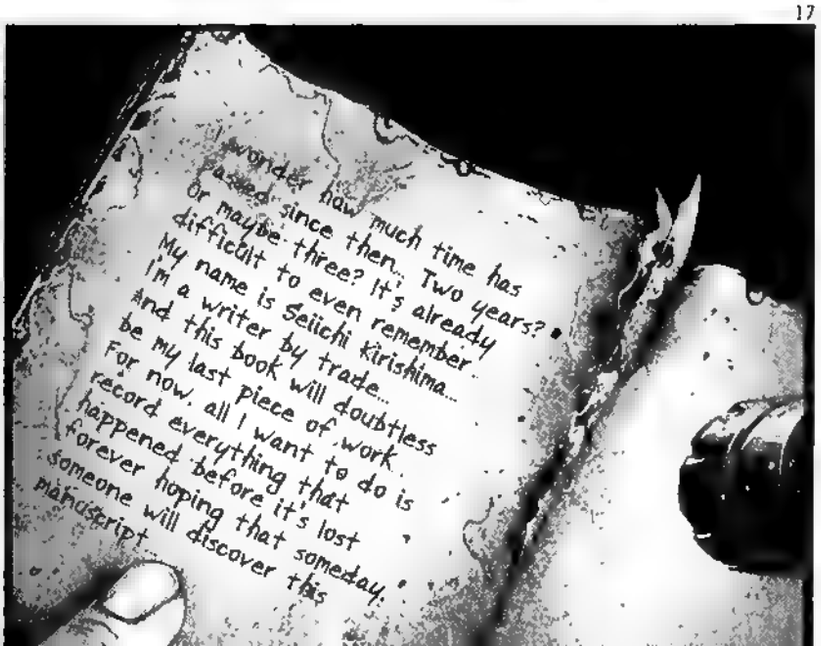


FINALLY...I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK WHOEVER IS READING THIS.

I'VE BEEN HERE BY MYSELF FOR SO LONG...
I FEEL SO LONELY...

I WANT TO MEET YOU...
I WANT TO WELCOME YOU...

YOU, THE READER OF THIS BOOK...


I wonder how much time has passed since then... Two years? Or maybe three? It's already difficult to even remember.
My name is Seiichi Kirishima.
I'm a writer by trade...
And this book will doubtless be my last piece of work.
For now, all I want to do is record everything that happened before it's lost forever hoping that someday, someone will discover this manuscript.

IF YOU HAPPEN TO FIND THE ENTRANCE TO THE CAVE—

—DON'T HESITATE TO COME IN...

HELP ME...I CAN'T BEAR IT ANYMORE...

I DON'T WANT TO BE ALONE...ANYMORE...

I'M SEIICHI KIRISHIMA...

YOU'RE MY...FAMILY...

HIDEOUT-End

HIDEOUT

STAFF

RUMI IKOMA

TAKUYA MORI

CHIHIRO YAMAMOTO

AFTERWORD

Yes, I'm a big horror fan, and I'm not afraid to admit it. Stephen King has been a major influence on me. Ever since I was a child, I have been fascinated by all things scary and spooky. I remember spending many hours in my elementary school years reading horror novels and watching horror movies. All my friends thought I was a freak. Hopefully I was able to channel a bit of that obsession into this manga.

I would like to thank my editor and the entire staff at ***Big Comic Spirits*** for giving me the chance to try my hands at this genre, despite the fact that horror is a hard sell during a recession.

There were quite a few obstacles during the process of creating this manga. For example, I suffered from severe muscle pain after exploring a cave I had hoped to draw inspiration from. Other problems included an inflamed tendon sheath and me struggling with expressing myself through my artwork. In short, it was not an easy ride.

Nevertheless, I hope that ***Hideout*** will leave a lasting impression on you, whether positive or negative, and that it will remain on your bookshelf for a long time.

Drawing this manga has been a "detoxifying" experience for me, and I will do my best to bring you another story with even higher quality next time.

Thank you very much for purchasing ***Hideout***.

November 30, 2010
Masasumi Kakizaki